SHORT VIEVV

OF THE

LIFE and REIGN

OF

King Charles,

(The Second MONARCH OF

GREAT BRITAIN)

From his Birth to his Burial.

Peter Heylyn

Tacit. Hift. Lib. I.

Alii diutius imperium tenuerunt, Nemo tam fortiter reliquit.

LONDON,

Printed for Richard Royston at the Angel in Ivy-lane. 1658.



A

SHORT VIEVV

OF THE LIFE and REIGN

King Charles,

(The Second Monarch
OF
GREAT BRITAIN)

From his Birth to his Burial.

Peter Heylyn

Tacit. Hift. Lib. I.

Alii diutius imperium tenuerunt, Nemo tam fortiter reliquit.

LONDON,

Printed for Richard Royston at the Angel in Ivy-lane. 1658.





SHORT VIEW

OF THE
Life and Reign of KING
CHARLES

(The second Monarch of Great

BRITAIN)

from his Birth to his Burial.

in Queen Elizabeth's time that wrote the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Pater-noster, the Queens Name, and the year of our Lord within the compasse of a Peny; and gave the Queen a paire of Spectacles of such an Artificiall making, that by A 3 the

the help thereof she did plainly and di-

stinctly discern every Letter.

The contracting of the Life and Reign of King Charles in so narrow a compasse as I have limited to my self, may feem to be a work of no leffe difficulty. And yet I hope to do it in such a plain and perspicuous manner, that every one who runs may read it without the help of any fuch Spectacles as our Chronicles speak of. To Brevity I am injoyned, and it must be my businesse to avoid all Obscurity; though I am conscious to my self, that I shall draw this Picture with too much shadow. But I take the Pencil into my hand, and thus form my lines.

1600.

CHARLES, the third Son of James
the fixth King of al of Anne his Wife, Daughter of Frederick the second, and Sister of Christiern the fourth, Kings of Denmark, was born at Dunfermeling (one of the principall towns of Fife) in Scotland, on the nineteenth

teenth day of November Anno 1600. derived by a long descent of Royall Ancestors from Malcolm Conmor King of the Scots, and the Lady Margaret his Wife, Sister and sole Heir of Edgar Atheling, the last surviving Prince of the English Saxons, So that his Title had been good to the Crown of England, though he had borrowed no part of his Claim from the Norman Con-

querour.

Which I observe, the better to encounter the extravagant follies of some men in the book called Antinormanisme, and some other Pamphlets of that time: in which it is affirmed that this King had no other Right to the Crown, then what he claimed from that Conquest; and therefore that the English Nation having got the better of him by the Sword, might lawfully free themselves from that subjection, which by no other Title then the Sword of the Normans had been laid upon them.

At his first coming imo the world he was so weak and unlike live, that his

Christen. A 4

Christening was dispatcht in haste, without attending the performance of those solemnities which are accustomably used at the Baptisme of such Princely infants. And as the name of Henry was given to the Prince, his Elder Brother, with reference to Henry Lord Darnlie, the Father of King James by Mary Queen of Scots; so was this younger Son called Charles, in relation to Charles Duke of Lenox, the younger Brother of that Henry, and by confequence Uncle to King James.

1602.

Having received some measure of strength, he was at the Age of two years created Duke of Albany, Marquesse of Ormond, Earle of Resse, and Baron of Ardmanock; of which four Titles the two first and the last are wholly at the Kings disposing, to be bestowed on whom he pleaseth. But the Earldom of Rosse falling unto the Crown in the time of King James the third, was so settled in the Grown by Act of Parlia-

ment, that it is not lawfull for the King to fell, alienate, or dispose the same unto any other, then to the fecond Son of Scotland.

1602.

On the 26. of March next following, Anno 1603. King James had news by Sir Robert Cary, one of the younger Sons of the Lord Hunsdon (who had stole a posting journey thither) that Queen Elizabeth was dead, contrary to the opinion of many of his Scottish Courtiers; who being wearied with the tediousnesse of their expectation, did believe at last, that it should never be acknowledged by the Lords of England that the Queen was dead, as long as there was any old woman of that Nation left, to weare good Clothes, and take the name of Queen upon For bringing which news the Duke of Albany (as if he were more concerned in it then all the rest of the Kings Children, as indeed he was) was afterwards committed to the Governance of Sir Roberts Lady, and he him-A 5

himself from that time forwards of principall esteem and place about him.

This news being seconded by that of the Proclaiming of King James, for her true and lawfull Successor in the Imperiall Crown of this Realm, the King prepared himself for England. At what time (as I have been told by some Persons of Quality) a certain Laird of the Highlands, though of very great Age, came to his Court, to take his seave of him, whom he found accompanied with all his Children, the young Duke being then held in his Nurses. Armes.

His Addresse unto the King consisted of Prayers for his long life and Prosperity; and those Prayers intermixt with some desires, that in the midst of the Felicities and Glories of the English Court, he would not be unmindfull of his Native Countrey. Which having said, without taking any great notice of the Prince, he applyed himself wholly to the Duke, whose hands he kist wish such an Ardency of Assection,

as if he meant they should grow for ever to his lips. And when the King told him, that he had mistook himself in his Addresses to the infant, as not being his eldest Son, and Prince of Scotland; he answered, that he knew well enough what he did, and that it was this Child in whom his Name and Memory was to be perpetuated to succeeding Ages, with other Speeches of like nature. Which being then either unregarded, or imputed unto age and dotage, were called to mind after the death of Prince Henry, and then believed to have something in them of a Prophetical spirit.

1603.

But to proceed. On the fifth day of April in the year 1603. King James began his journey for England, and in the end of May, the Queen accompanied with Prince Henry, and the Lady Elizabeth, fet forwards also; finding at Berwick a Noble Train of Lords and Ladies fent thither from the Court to attend her coming, and wait upon her in her journey. The

1604.

The next yeare order was given for bringing the young Duke to the Court of England. But before such as had the Charge of him could begin their journey, the young Duke was taken with a feaver. Which being signissed to the King, he sent thither Doctor Atkins one of his Physicians, who who in fix weeks restored him to such a degree of health as made him sit to be removed to a Warmer Aire, and a more comfortable Climate.

On the sixteenth of Fully this Remove began, which brought him by short and easie stages in the sirst week of October, to Windsor Castle, where the King then was, by whom he was committed to the Governance of the Lady Cary, as before is said. And not long after, for his better welcome into England, he was on the sixth day of January next sollowing (commonly called Twelsth-day) invested solemnly with the Title of Duke of York by Cincture

of

of a Sword, imposition of a Cap and Coronet of Gold upon his Head, and by delivering unto him a Verge of Gold; himself with ten others of eminent Nobility, having been made Knights of the Bath (with all the accustomed Ceremonies) the day before.

1606.

In the fixth year of his Age, he was taken from the charge of his Women (though not from the Motherly super-inspection of the Lady Cary) and committed to the Pedagogy of Master Thomas Murray, a Scot by Nation; sufficiently qualified for that service, but otherwise ill Principled in the Rites and Ceremonies by the Church of England differed from the Kirke of Scotland.

1610.

Under this Tutor the young Duke advanced exceedingly in the way of good Letters; the weaknesse of his lower parts, which made him unapt for Exercises and feats of Activity, rendring

dring him more retired and studious; and more intent upon his Book then he had been otherwise. Which Prince Henry taking notice of, as he, the young Duke, Dr. Abbot thennewly made Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, with many of the Nobility, were waiting in the Privie-Chamber for the Kings coming out; the Prince (to put a jest upon him) took the Arch Bishops Square-cap out of his hand, and put it on his Brothers head, telling him that if he continued a good boy, and followed his Book, he would make him one day Arch-Bishop of Canterbury. Which the child took in such disdain, that he threw the Cap upon the ground, and trampled it under his feet, not being without much difficulty and some force taken off from that eagernesse.

This, though at first it was not otherwise beheld then as an Act of Childish passion, yet when his Brother Prince Henry dyed, and that he was Heir apparent to the Crown, it was taken up by many zealous Church-men for some

ill Presage unto the Hierarchy of Bishops, the overthrow whereof by his Act and Power did seem to be foresignified by it. But in that their fears were groundlesse, and their conjectures no better grounded then their fears; there never being a more gracious Patron to the Church, nor a more resolute Champion in behalf of the Hierarchy then he proved to be. What is presaged (if there were any presaging in it) in reference to the Archbishops Person. may be shewn hereafter.

1611, 1612.

In the eleventh year of his Age, he was made Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, and on the fixth day of November, Anno 1612. he lost his Brother Prince Henry, whom he immediately succeeded in the Dukedome of Cornwal, with all the Royalties, Rents, Profits, and Commodities of it; according to the entail which was made thereof by King Edward the third, when he conferred it upon Edward the black Prince, his eldest Son. The

12 The Life and Reign

The first solemn Act which he appeared in after this change of his condition, was at the Funerall of Prince Henry on the 7. of Decem. following, at which he attended as chief Mourner. And on the 14. of February then next ensuing, being Sunday, and S. Valentines day, he performed the Office of a Brideman (a Paranymph the Grecians call him) to the Princesse Elizabeth his Sister, married upon that day to Frederick the fifth, Prince Elector Palatine: A marriage which drew him afterwards into many cares and great expences, of which more hereafter.

In his Childhood he was noted to be very wilful, somewhat inclining to a perverseness of disposition, which might-proceed from that retiredness, which the imperfection of his Speech, not fitting him for publick discourse, and the weakness of his limbs and joynts (as unfit for Action) made him most delight in.

But now being grown both in years and state, he began to shake off that retirednesse, and betake himself to all man-

ner

ner of manlike exercises; such as were Vaulting, riding great Horses, running at the ring, shooting in crosse-bowes, Muskets, and sometimes in great Pieces of Ordnance, in which he became so perfect, that he was thought to be the best Marks-man, and the most comely manager of a great Herse of any one in all three Kingdoms. And as he shaked off this refirednesse, so he corrected in himfelf the Peccancy of that humour which had grown up with it; there being no man to be found of an evener temper, more pliant to good Counsel, or lesse wedded then he was to his own opinion. 1616.

On the third of November, Anno 1616. He was at White-Hall (with all the accustomed Solemnities) created Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester and Flint, and put into the actuall possession of all the Regalities, Profits, and Commodities belonging to them; his Houshold being then formed and constituted, and all the officers of State, which belong unto him, appointed to their several places.

And

And now it was expected that he should break out into more glory then he had done formerly, and take upon him as the Heir of so great an Empire. But confidering very wifely that the forward and enterprizing nature of his brother P. Henry, the popularity which he affected, & the great refort of young Noble-men continually unto his Court, had been displeasing to his Father; refolved to keep himself at a close ward, and not to feem fo great as he was, that, when time ferved, he might appeare greater then he seemed to be. Princes do not love to have their eldest Sons too active, and to tread too close upon their heels; and therefore many times do interpose the power of a favorite to keep them at the greater distance. A policy much used by King James in the whole course of his Government, who for that cause in the life-time of Prince Henry, took Sir Robert Carr into his most especial favour, whom he first made Gentleman of his Bed-chamber, and on the twenty fifth of March

Anno

of KING CHARLES. 15

and the same year made Knight of the Garter also, conferring on him all the power and trust he was capable of; that by the greatnesse of the one he might keep down the daring nature and consider Society of the carbon states.

dent Spirit of the other.

n n

2.

e

is h

g t,

1,

t,

e

ft

(e

y

0=

e.

in

of

n-

ie

n-

ch

MO

Prince Charles understood this well enough, and carried himself with so much prudence, that he disputed not the Power of his Fathers favourites. suffering all honours, Offices, and other matters at the Court to be carried by them as best pleased the King Which though it was generally ascribed unto Pufillanimity, and the defect of spirit in him, yet was it lookt upon as an Act of the greatest wisdome by more knowing men. For had he any wayes croft the defigns and Councels either of Carr then Earl of Somerfet, or of the Duke of Duckingham, his Fathers favourites (who at that time did much out-shine him) he had not only incurred the Kings difpleasure, but of necessity must have divided the Court, and by consequence the

the Kingdom also into severall factions, each labouring to advance their own, though to the Ruine and Destruction of

the publick Peace.

Onely to take off tomewhat of the imputation, he made so much use of his power and interesse with the King, as to prefer three of his servants unto Titles of Honour, Anno 1621. viz. Sir Robert Cary Chamberlain of his Houshold, to the Title of Lord Cary of Lepington; Sir Thomas Howard, second Son to the Earl of Suffolk, and Master of his Horse, to the Honour of Viscount Andover, and Lord Howard of Charlton; and Sir John Vaughan Controller of his Houshold, to the Honour of Lord Vaughan of Molingar in the Realm of Ireland.

1618.

On the eighteenth day of November Anno 1618. There appeared a great blazing Star, the forerunner of many woful events in these parts of Christendom. But the first sad effect thereof which we found in England, was the death of Queen Anne, which happed on Tucsday the

the second of March next following. A losse which the Prince bare with great equanimity, or evennesse of Spirit; neither banishing all shews of grief with a Stoical Apathie, nor spending his time in too much womanish lamentation. At the Funerall of this great Queen, he was principall Mourner, and it became him so to be; she having always been to him a tender and indulgent Mother, expressing more affection to him then to all the rest of her Children.

1619.

Not long after the death of the Queen, King James fell very fick at Newmarket, and having a defire to come to London, advanced on his way as far as Royston, where he was fain to stay till his fickness was over, which at last became so dangerous, that his death was feared. At what time D. Andrews Bishop of Winchester attending on him, bewailed with great Affliction the sad condition which the Church was like to fall into if God should take away his life, the Prince being in the hands of the Scots, which made

e

y

up the greatest part of his Houshold, and not well principled by those which had the tutelage of him, either as to the Government or Liturgie of the Church of England. The King acknowledgeing this sad truth, and condemning his own negligence in it, made a folemn vow, that if God would be pleased to restore him to his health, he would take the Prince into his own immediate care, instruct him in the controverses of Religion, and fet him on so right a bottome, that there should be no fear of his disaffection either unto the Hierarchy, or the rites and Ceremonies of the Church; which he did accordingly. And he did it so effectually, that at such time as the Prince made his journey into Spain, and that some principal persons in all the Places and Offices belonging to him, were to follow after, Dr. Mam and Dr. Wren two of his Chaplains being appointed for that fervice, came to King James to know his pleasure and commands. The King advised them not to put themselves upon any unnecessary Dispu-

Disputations, but to be onely on the Defensive part, if they should be challenged. And when it was answered that there could be no reason to engage in fuch Disputations, where there could be no Moderator; the King replied, that Charles should moderate between them and the opposite party. At which when one of them seemed to smile on the other, the King proceeded and told them, that Charles should manage a point in Controversie with the best studied Divine of them all; and that he had trained up George fo far as to hold the conclusion, though he had not yet made him able to proye the Premisses.

1619.

On Friday the twenty fourth of March, Anno 1619. The Prince with the Marquesse of Hamilton, Marquesse of Buckingham, diverse Earles and others performed great Justing at White-Hall in honour of the day, being the day of King James his happy coming to the Crown of England.

And

1620.

And on the Sunday after, being Midlent Sunday, he attended his Father to S. Pauls Croffe, conducted in a most solemn manner from Temple Bar to that Church by the Lord Major and Aldermen, and at the entrance into the Church, received by the Dean and Chapter in their rich Copes, and other Ecclesiasticall Habits, and by them conducted into the Quire; where having heard the Divine service for that day most solemnly performed with Organs, Cornets, and Sagbots, they went to a prepared place where they heard the Sermon at the Croffe preacht by Dr. King, then Lord Bishop of London; and from thence unto the Bishops Palace, where they were entertained with a Banquet. Infinite was the concourse of People at both those Solemnities, and all of them returned with great joy and comfort to fee him so bravely accomplishe in the one, so devoutly reverent in the other.

1622.

On Tuesday the eighteenth of February, Anno 1622. Accompanied with the Duke of Buckingham, M. Endimion Porter, and M. Francis Cottington; he took ship at Dover, arrived at Bulloign in France, and from thence rode Post to

the Court of Spain.

- go

re

t.

at

m

to

he

er.

Dn

The occasion this; Frederick Prince Elector Palatine had inconsiderately taken on himself the Crown of Bohemia, An. 1619. and for so doing, was by the Emperor deprived of his Ancient Patrimony; the Flectorall dignity together with the upper Palatinate being conferred on the Duke of Bavaria, and the lower on the K. of Spain, who possess himfelf of all of it except the towns of Heidelberg, Frankendale, and Manheim, well manned and Garrisoned by the Englist. For the preserving of which places, and the recovery of the whole, when all means else had proved ineffectuall, it was held most expedient to negotiate a Marriage betwixt Prince

Prince Charles and the Daughter of Spain. Which being first managed by the Leiger Embassadors in both Courts, was afterwards profecuted with more particular instructions by John Lord Digby (well verst and studied in that Court) whom the King fent as his Emballador extraordinary to conclude the match. But Digby being fed with delaies from one time to another, it was resolved by King James, without making any of his Councel acquainted with it, that the Prince himself should go in Person, that he might either speed the Businesse, or break off the Treaty.

According to this Resolution he began his journey, no otherwise accompanied or attended then with those three persons above-mentioned, all of them passing in disguise, to avoid discovery. Being come to Paris, they adventured to see the Court, where at a Mask, he had a view of that most excellent Princesse whom he after married. But no sooner had he left the Ci-

ty, then the French King had Advertisement of his being there, who thereupon dispatcht away severall Posts to stay him in his journey, and bring him back; but the Prince had past beyond Bayonne, the last Town in France, without being overtaken by them, and posting speedily to Madrid, entred the Lord Embassadors Lodging, without being known to any but his Confidents

onely.

News of his safe Arrivall there being brought to the King, there was a present order taken for the sending of his Servants of all forts, to attend upon him in that Court, that so he might appear amongst them in the greater Lustre. But this lessened not the Cares and Feares of the English Subjects, who could not be more glad to hear of his fafety, then they were afraid of the danger which he had incurred. For having put himself into the power of the King of Spain, it was at the Courtesie of that King whether he should ever return or no: it being a Maxime

B 2 amongst

The Life and Reign

24

amongst Princes, That if any one without leave sets foot on the Ground of another, he makes himself his Prifoner.

Philip the first of Spain and Duke of Burgundy, being cast by Tempest on the Coast of England, was here detained by King Henry the seventh, till he had delivered up the Earle of Suffolk, who had fled for Refuge to his Court: and Mary Queen of the Scots, being forced by her Rebellious Subjects to fly into this Realm, was presently seized on as a Priloner, and so continued till her lamentable and calamitous death. So in like manner Richard the first of England, passing in disguise through some part of the dominions of the Arch-Duke of Austria, was by him took Prifoner, and put unto an heavy Ranfome; and not long fince Charles Lodowick the now Prince Elector Palatine posting through France, in hope to get the Command of Duke Bernards Army, was stayed in the middle of his journey by the Kings command, and kept

fo

o long under Restraint, that he lost the opportunity of effecting his pur-

pole.

This, though it was the generall Fear and apprehension of the English Subjects, yet no body durst acquaint the King with it, but Archee the fool, who going boldly to the King, as he found him once in a good humour, told him that he was come to change Caps with him. Why, faid the King? Marry, saies Archee, because thou hast sent the Prince into Spain, from whence he is never like to returne. But faid the King, what wilt thou fay when thou feest him come back again? Marry, saies Archee, I will then take off the fools Cap which I put upon thy head, for fending him thither, and put it on the King of Spains, for letting him return. At which words, it is reported, that the King became exceeding pensive, never before so much apprehending the Danger of that Adventure, as then and afterwards he did.

B 3

But

1623.

But the generous Spaniard intended to make no fuch Market of him, but gave him all the Royall entertainment which a Princely Suitor might expect. Nor was the Prince wanting for his part in all fit Compliances by which he might both gain on them, and preserve himself. For by his Courtly Garb he won fo much on the Affections of the Infanta, and by his grave and circumspect behaviour got so much ground upon the King and his Councel, that the match went forward in good earnest. The Articles of the Marriage with all the Circumstances thereof were agreed upon, and folemnly fworn to by both Kings. Nor was the Pope wanting in the grant of a dispensation (without which nothing could be done) writing a Letter to the Prince, who returned to him a Civil answer, which afterwards was reckoned amongst his Crimes, by fuch as rather would not then did not know the necessity which lay

lay upon him, of keeping at that time a plaufible Correspondence with the

Catholick party.

But as for his Religion, the change whereof was moved by the Pope, and much hoped for by the Court of spain at his first coming thither, he shewed so many strong evidences of his constancy in it, that those hopes soon vanished. And that it might appear, that he professed no other Religion, then what was agreeable to the Rules of Antiquity, and not much abhorrent from the formes then used in the Church of Rome, the English Liturgie was by the care of the Lord Keeper williams tranflated into the Spanish Tongue; and so many Copies of the Book then printed fent into Spain, as gave great satisfaction in that point to the Court and Clergy.

And this I must needs say was very seasonably done, the Spaniards being till then perswaded by their Priests and Jesuits, that when the English had cast off the Pope, they had cast off also all Re-

B 4 ligion,

ligion, and became meer Atheists; the name of God being never used amongst them, but with a purpose to expose it unto scorn and prophanation. Infomuch that the "Constable of Castile, " being fent to swear the Peace conclu-"ded with Spain, when he understood se the businesse was to be performed in cc the Chappel, where some Anthems were "to be fung, defired that what soever " was sung, Gods name might not be used cin it, and that being forborn, he was content they should sing what they listed. King James himself so relates the story in Arch-Bishop spotswood, fol. 530.

But the Prince had another game to play, namely, the Restitution of the Palatinate; which the Spaniard would not suffer to be brought under the Treaty, reserving it (as they pretended to be bestowed by the Infanta after the Marriage, the better to ingratiate her self with the English Nation. Which being a point of too great moment to depend upon no other assurance then a

Court-

Court-Complement, he concluded with himself that since he could not prevaile in the one, he would not proceed unto the Consummation of the other. And hereupon he was much edged on by the Duke of Buckingham, who having conceived some deep displeasure against the Conde de Olivarez, the special Favourite of that King, desired rather that all Treaties should be broken off, then that any Alliance should be made in which that Conde had appeared so instrumentall.

But it did concern the Prince so to provide for his own safety, that no intimation might be made of the intended Rupture, till he had unwinded himself out of that Labyrinth into which he was cast. For which cause having desired of his Father that some ships might be sent to bring him home, he shewed himself a more passionate lover then ever formerly, and made a Prexie to the Catholick King and Don Charles his Brother, in his name to espouse the Lady Infanta; which Proxie he lest

B 5 with

with Digby, not long before made Earl of Bristol, by him to be delivered within some few daies after the coming of

the expected dispensation,

But no sooner had he took his leave, and was out of danger, but he dispatcht a Post unto him, commanding him not to deliver up the Proxie untill surther order. And having so done, he hois'd Sails, and came for England, arriving at Portsmouth on Sunday the fifth of October, Anno 1623. From whence by Post-Horses he past to London, the next morning, and so by Coach to the King at Royston, to the great content of all the Kingdome, declared by Bells, Bon-fires, and all other the accustomed expressions of a publick joy.

The King being made acquainted with all particulars, and that no Assurance could be had of the Restitution of the Palatinate, by the advice of his Privy Councel, dispatche a command to the Earl of Bristel, not to deliver up the Proxie unlesse the businesse of the Palatinate were concluded also. The ex-

pectation

pectation whereof not being answered by Successe, a Parliament is summon'd, to begin on the fixteenth day of February then next following, to the end that all things might be governed in this great Affair by the publick Counsel of the Kingdom. Not long after the beginning whereof, the Duke declared before both Houses (more to the disadvantage of the Spaniard then there was just ground for) how unhandsomely they had dealt with the Prince, when he was in Spain; how they had fed him with delaies; what indignities they had put upon him, and finally had fent him back not onely without the Palatinate, but without a Wife; leaving it to their prudent Confideration what course to follow.

It was thereupon voted by both Houfes, that his Majesty should be desired
to break off all Treaties with the King
of Spain, and to engage himself in a
war against him for the recovery of the
Palatinate, not otherwise to be obtained. And that they might come the
better

better to the end they aimed at, they addresse themselves unto the Prince, whom they assured, that they would stand to him in that War to the very last expence of their lives and fortunes; and he accordingly being surther set on by the Duke, became their instrument to perswade his Father to hearken to the Common Votes and desires of his Subjects, which the King, prest by their continuals importunities, did at the last assent to.

But in the conduct of this Businesse, the Prince consulted more the Dukes passion, and the pleasing of the Commons in Parliament, then either his own or the Regall interesse. For there is nothing more unsafe for a King of England, then to cast himself upon the necessity of calling Parliaments, and depending on the purse of the Subject. By means whereof, he makes himself obnoxious to the Humour of any prevailing Member in the House of Commons, and becomes lesse in Reputation both at home and abroad. The Commons, since

fince the time of King James, have seldome parted with a peny, but they have paid themselves well for it out of

the Prerogative.

And this appeared by their proceedings in this very Parliament: For though they had ingaged the King in a War with spain, and granted him three Subsidies, and three Fifteens toward the beginning of that War; yet would they not suffer that grant to passe into an Act of Parliament, till the King had yielded to another against Concealments. Insomuch as it was affirmed by Justice Doddrige, at the next Publick Assizes held in Oxford, that the King by passing of that Act, had bought those Subsidies and Fifteens at ten years purchase. Nor dealt they otherwise with this Prince then they did with his Father, those very Commons who had ingaged him in the Warre, and bound themselves to make good that ingagement with their lives and fortunes, most shamefully deserting him in the first Parliament of his Reign.

Reign, and after working more and more upon his necessities, till they had robbed him of the richest Jewels in the Regal Diadem.

1624.

But to proceed, the Treaty with Spain being like to come to a Rupture, it was judged necessary to counterballance the Power of that King by negotiating a Match with the Princesse Henrietta Maria, the youngest Daughter of France; first set on foot by the Mediation of the Earl of Holland, who found that Court inclinable thereunto, and afterwards concluded at the coming ower of the Earl of Carlile, joyned in Commission to that purpose. It was reported, that when the was told that the Prince of Wales had been at the Court, and was gone for Spain; she Answered, that if he went to Spain for. a VVife, he might have had one nearer hand, and saved himself a great part of the trouble. And I have read, that receiving at one time two Letters from England.

England, the one from King James, and the other from the Prince, the put that from King James into her Cabinet, and that from Prince Charles into her Bosom. Of which King James being told, he was exceedingly pleafed with it, saying, that he took it for a very good Omen, that the should preserve his Name in her Memory, and lodge Charles in her Heart.

1625.

During these preparations for War and Marriage, King James departed this life at Theobalds on Sunday the twenty seventh of March, Anno 1625. Immediately upon whose death Prince Charles, was proclaimed at the Court-Gates to be King of great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c. The like done presently after at London, and by degrees in all the other Cities and Towns of the Kingdome, with infinite rejoycings and Acclamations of the People.

The Funeralls of the deceased King were celebrated on the seventh of May,

his

his body being brought from Somer fet-House with great Magnificence to Saint Peters Church in Westminster (where he was interred) the King himself being principall Mourner. Which though it were contrary to the Custome of his Predecessors, yet he chose rather to expresse his Piety in attending the dead body of his Father to the Funerall Pile, then to stand upon any such old Niceties and points of State.

The Funerall being past, he thought it was time for him to quicken the coming over of his dearest Consort, to whom he had been married on the Sunday before at the Church of Nostre-Dame in Paris; the Duke of Chevereux a Prince of the House of Guise (from which House King Charles derived himfelf by the Lady Mary of Lorain Wife to James the fifth) espousing the Prin-

cesse in his Name.

On Trinity Sunday, late at night, she was brought by a Royall Fleet of Ships from Bulloign to Dover, which being fignified to the King who was then

then at Canterbury, he went to her betimes the next morning, and received her with great expressions of Affection, professing that he would be no longer Master of himself, then whilest he was a Servant to her. The same day he brought her to Canterbury, where he gave himself up to those Embraces, to which from that time he confined himself with such a Conjugal Chastity, that on the day before his death he commanded his Daughter the Princesse Elisabeth to tell her Mother, that his thoughts had never straied from her, and that his love should be the same to the last.

On the Thursday after being the sixteenth of June, they came from Gravesend to White-Hall in their Royal Barges, attended with an infinite number of Lords, Ladies, and other people who could get Boats to wait upon them; the Ordnance from the Ships which were then preparing for the Wars, those from the Merchants Ships, and the Tower of London, thundering her Welcome as the past.

But

But in the heat of these Solemnities and entertainments, the King forgat not the main Concernments of himfelf and the Kingdome, and to that end began his first Parliament on Saturday the eighteenth of June, which fell out not unfeafonably, that the French Lords might see with what Royall Magnificence he was attended by the Peers, Prelates, and other Officers of State, (besides his own Domestick Servants) to the Parliament-House.

At their first meeting, he put them in mind of the War in which they had ingaged his Father, and of the promife they had made to stand to him in it with their lives and fortunes; that both his Land and Sea-Forces were now in readinesse to set forwards, and that there wanted nothing but a prefent supply of money to quicken and ex-pedite the Affair. In Answer whereunto, the Commons past a Bill of two Subfidies onely, fo short of the excessive Charge which the Maintenance of so great a Fleet and Army required at their hands, that being distributed amongst the Officers, Souldiers, and Mariners, it would scarce have served for Advance-money to send them going. Which notwithstanding, the King very graciously accepted of it, taking it as an Earnest of their good Affections, in reference to the greater Summes which were to follow.

But the Plague growing hot in London, the Parliament on the eleventh day of July was adjourned to Oxford, there to be held on the first of August, at what time the King put them in mind again of the necessity of setting forward his Fleet, and that the eyes of his Confederates were fixt upon it. But the Commons had other fish to fry, and began to quarrel at the greatnesse of the Duke of Buckingham, whom in the last Parliament of King James they had idolized above all men living. But he had served their turne already, and now they meant to serve their own.

This was the first Assault which the Com-

ies

gat

m-

nd

y

ut

ls

i-

Commons made upon this King, though not directly on his Person, wounding him thorough the sides of his principal Minister; they were so well verst in the Arts of a Parliament-War, as to take in the Out-works sirst, that so the Fort it self might lie the more open to continual Batteries. Concerning which, and the sad consequents thereof, take here the words of a Letter written to the King from an unknown Person.

"These men, saith he, either cannot or will not remember, that never amy Noble man in favour with his Soveraign, was questioned in Parliament, except by the King himself in case of Treason, or unlesse it were in the Nonage and tumultuous time of Richard the 2. Henry the 6. or Edward the 6. which hapned to the destruction on both of the King and Kingdome. And that, not to exceed our own and Fathers Memories, in King Henry the eight's time, Wolses exorbitant power and pride, and Cromwels contempt of the

the Nobility and the Lawes, were "not yet permitted to be discussed in Parliament, though they were most " odious and grievous to all the King-"dome, And that Leicesters undeser-" ved favour and faults; Hattons infufficiency, and Rawleighs insolence far exceeded what yet hath been (though most falsly) objected against the Duke ; yet no Lawyer durst abet, "nor any man else begin any inve-"dives against them in Parliament. "And then he addes (some other pas-" fages intervening) that it behoves " his Majesty to uphold the Duke aes gainst them, who if he be but decourted, it will be the corner-stone on which the demolishing of his Monar-"chy will be builded. For if they pre-"vaile with this, they have hatched a "thousand other Demands to pull the " feathers of the Royalty, they will ap-"point him Counsellors, Servants, Allicances, Limits of his Expenses. Ac-"compts of his Revenue, chiefly if they "can (as they mainly defire) they will

ugh

ling

pal

in

to

he

to

h,

e

t-

n

" now dazle him in the beginning of his

Reign.

How true a Prophet this man proved, the event hath shewn, and the King faw it well enough, and therefore fince he could not divert them from that pursuit, he dissolved the Parliament, by whose neglect (I will not call it a perversenesse) the Fleet went out late, and returned unprosperously. In which conjuncture if he had clapt up a Peace with Spain, (which the Spaniards had as much reason to accept as he to offer) he might have prevented the following Rupture betwixt him and France, and freed himself from the necessity of calling Parliaments, till he had no necessity for a Parliament to work upon, and then he might have found them as pliant to him as he could reasonably require.

But he resolves to try his fortune in another as soon as he had performed the solemnities of his Coronation, which was celebrated on the second of February, (commonly called Candle-

mas Day) then next enfuing. In the externall Pomp whereof, he omitted his triumphant-riding thorow the City from the Tower to White-Hall, the Charge whereof would have stood him in fixty thousand pounds, as some compute it; and he had then more necessary occafions to expend his Money, then Money to answer those occasions. facred part of it, there was nothing altered, but the adding of a clause to one of the Prayers which had been pretermitted fince the time of King Henry the fixth, and is this that followeth, viz. Let him obtain favour for the People, like Aaron in the Tabernacle, Elisha in the VVaters, Zacharias in the Temple; give him Peters key of Discipline, Pauls Do-Which clause had been omitted in time of Popery, as intimating more Ecclesiasticall jurisdiction to be given to our Kings then the Popes allowed of; and for the same reason was now quarrel'd by the Puritan Faction. As for the Coronation-oath, it was the same which had been taken by his

his

ng

ce

at

t,

2,

h

:0

d

0

e

his Predecessors, as appears by the Records of Exchequer; Not made more advantageous to the King, and lesse beneficiall to the People by the late Archbishop, though both the long Parliament in the year 1642, and the lewd Pamphlets of that time did object

the contrary.

The Coronation being passed over, he began his second Parliament on the figth of the same moneth, in which he sped no better then he did in his first. The Commons voted some Subfidies to be granted to him, but they never past them into Act, that bait being onely laid before him to tempt him to give over the Duke to their pride and fury, against whom they had framed a large impeachment ushered in by Sir Dudly Diggs, prosecuted with fix bitter invectives, made by the best Speakers and most learned Lawyers of that House, and finally concluded by Sir John Eliot, who brought up the Rear.

But

1626.

But the King easily perceived that his Royal Father and himself were as much concerned in it as the Duke, their favours being made his crimes and their authority in bestowing Offices and Honours on whom they pleased, not ob-

scurely questioned.

But the storm went higher then the Duke, some part of it falling downright on the King himself; it being openly affirmed in the House of Commons by one Mr. Coke (a true chip of the old block) that it was as good to die by a forraign Enemy as to be destroyed at home. Of this reproch, tending so much to the dishonour of his Government, he complained in a Speech before both Houses, but without any remedy. And being further incensed by the noise of a Declaration which they had then upon the Anvil, he dissolved the Parliament on the eighteenth day of June then following.

No looner was he freed from this,

but

but the necessity of his Affairs involved him in another Embroylment. The French Priests and Domesticks of that Nation which came into England with the Queen, were grown so insolent, and had put fo many affronts upon him, that he was forced to fend them home; in which he did no more then what the French King had done before him, in fending back all the Spanifb Courtiers which his Queen brought with her. But the French King not looking on his own example, and knowing on what ill termes the King stood both at home and abroad, first seized on all the Merchants ships which lay on the River of Burdeaux, and then brake out into open war. So that the King was fain to make use of those Forces against the French, which were defigned to have been used against the Spaniard, and to comply with the defires of the Rochelers, who humbly fued for his protection and Defence, But the Fleet not going out till after Michaelmas, found greater opposition at the

the Sea then they feared from the Land; being encountred with strong Tempests, and thereby necessitated to return without doing any thing, but onely shewing the Kings good-will and readinesse toward their assistance.

1627.

But the next yeare this delign was followed with greater vigour by the Duke of Buckingham, who hoped thereby to make himself of some consideration in the eyes of the people. gaining of the life of Re, which lay before the Town of Rechel, and imbarr'd their Trade, was the matter aimed at; and he had strength enough both for Sea and Land to have done the work, if he had not followed it more like a Gourtier then a Souldier; suffering himself to be complemented out of the taking of their chief Fort, when it was almost at his mercy; and standing upon points of Hewour in facing those Forces which were fent G 2

e

t

d

g

h

at

e

10

E-

1-

Ht

i-

at

he

sent from the French King to raise the siege, when he might have made a safe retreat unto his ships without losse or

danger.

In the mean time his Majesty neither neglected his Affairs at home nor his Friends abroad: At home he found the Puritan faction to be much increased by the remisnesse of the government of Arch-bishop Abbot, whom therefore he suspended from all his Metropoliticall Jurisdiction, and confined him to his House at Ford in Kent, committing the exercise thereof to the Bishops of London , Durham , Rochester , Oxford , Bath and Wells, by Letters Patents, bearing date the 9. day of October, Anno 1627. Abroad he found the Princes of Germany wormed out of their Estates, one after another, by the Emperours Forces, the King of Denmark (whom they had made the Head of their League) being driven out of the Countrey by Count Tilly, and hardly able to defend his own Dominions. No Prince so fit for the pro-

profecution of that cause, as Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, whom therefore he elects into the Noble Order of the Garter, and solemly invests him with it in the midst of his Army, then lying at the Siege of Darsam, a Town of Pomerella, belonging to the Crown of Poland, on Sunday the twenty third of October, of the same year also. At which time he laid the grounds of that Confederacy, which being seconded by the French. the States of the United Provinces, and the distressed Princes of the Empire, brought that King into Germany; where he gave the first great check to the Emperours fortunes, and had restored the Prince Elector Palatine to his ancient Patrimony, if he had not fallen unfortunately at the Battell of Lutzen.

1628.

Being thus ingaged and embroiled, he gave a beginning to his third Parliament on the seventeenth of March,

ne

fe

or

er

is

ne

y

of

re

i-

to

g

of

1,

r-

20

es !-

1k

of

-

•

and freely declares to them the necessities under which he lay: in Answer whereunto the Commons voted five Subfidies, but meant he should pay dearly for them before he had them. Such grievances as they thought fit to infift upon, were cast into the mold of a petition, by them called a Petition of Right; which if the King granted, he must lose his prerogative; if he denied it, he must lose all hopes of their supply in his great extremities. The confideration of which last induced bim to yield to their defires, and confirm that petition by Act of Parliaments the Prerogative never to much descending from Perch to popular Lure, as by that concession. But though this Act of grace might have given satisfaction even to supererogation (as one well observeth) yet the Commons were not so contented, but were preparing a Remonstrance to take away his Right of Tonnage and Poundage, as disclaimed by him in that Act; which coming to the Kings knowledge, on the twenty fixth

fixth of June he adjourns the Parliament till the twentieth day of Odeber then next exclude.

In the mean time the Duke prepares for the relief of Rochel, both by Sea and Land, and being ready to set sail, was suddenly cut off at Ports-mouth by the hand of one John Felson, a discontented Officer of the last years Army, alledging no other reason for that bloody act, but that the Duke had been declared an Enemy to the Common-wealth, in a Remonstrance tendred to the King in the former Session.

But such was the constancy of the Kings temper, and the known evenness of his spirit, that this sad Accident made little or no stop in the proceedings of the Fleet, which at the last set forwards under the command of the Earl of Lindsey; who found the Haven of Rockel so strongly barred, that it was utterly impossible for his Ships to force their way (though it was gallant-

ffi-

CI

ve

n.

to

of

of

ne

i-

ir

ie

d

1-

15

S

S

C

C

2 The Life and Reign

ly attempted) and give relief to the besieged; who thereupon set open their Gates, and received air King into their Town without more delay.

To smooth his way to the next Session of Parliament, adjourned again till the twentieth of January. Arch bishop Abbot is admitted to kisse his hand, by whom he is commanded not to fail of his attendance at the Councel table; Dr. Barnaby Potter (a through-pac'd Calvinian) is made Bishop of Carlisse, and Mr. Moutagues book called Apello Casarem (for which he had been questioned and molested in the beginning of the Kings sirst Parliament) must be suppress and called in by Proclamation.

But this little edified with the faction in the house of Commons, who not onely took upon them the reforming of the Church and State, but called the Customers in question for levying Tonnage and Poundage, not then granted (nor ever likely to be granted as it had been

been formerly) by Act of Parliament, and distraining such Merchants goods as refused to pay it. And in this point they went fo high, that fearing they should be dissolved before they had vented their own passions in that particular, upon the second day of March they lockt the Doors of the Parliamenthouse, kept the key thereof in one of their pockets, and held the Speaker by strong hand in his Chair, till they had thundred out their Anathema's not onely against such as should dare to levie it, but those also who should willingly pay it. The news of which riotous proceeding being brought immediately to the King, he fent his Band of Penfioners, accompanied by his ordinary Guard, to force open the doors, and going himself to the House of Peers, he dissolved the Parliament, not having continued in that Seffion above forty dayes.

At the end of the former Sellion he had admitted Sir John Savill of Torkshire, a busie man in the House

of Commons, (but otherwise a politique and prodent person) to be one of his Prive Council, created him Lord 84will of Pompract, and made him Compitoller of his Houshold in the place of Sir John Sackling deceased. And a little before the beginning of the following Sellion, he took into his Council Sir Thomas Wentworth of Wentworth Woodhouse in the same County, whom he created Viscount VVentworth, and made Lord President of the North, and within two years after Lord Deputy of treland also. A man he was of prodigious Parts, which he made use of at the first in favour of the Popufar Faction: But being gained unto the King by Sir Ri. Weston then Chancelfour of the Exchequer, (afterwards Lord Treasurer and Earl of Pertland) he became the most devout friend of the Church, the greatest Zelot for advancing Monarchichall Interesse, and the ablest Minister of State which our Histories have afforded to us.

On the judgement of these two his Majesty did much rely in Civil matters, as he did on the advice of Dostor Neile then Bishop of Darbam, and Doctor Land then Billiop of Bath and Wells, in matters which concerned the Church. These last he had called unto his Council in the beginning of April, 1627, and finding them to be of as great abilities to advile, as fincere affections to his person; he advancedthe first to the See of Winchester, and afterwards to the Archbishoprick of Tork, Anno 1631, the second to the See of London, and from thence to Canterbury, Anno 1622.

1.629

But whilest it was such hot weather at home, it grew cold abroad, the breach betwixt him and France being closed up at the same time, by the prudent and seasonable intervention of the State of Venue. And not long after he concluded a Peace also with the King

ue

iis

4-

n-

ce

a. |-

3-

b

h

d

3

f

3

.

of Spain, all things being left on both fides in the same condition in which they were before the war, but that the Spaniard did ingage that he would make use of all his Interest with the Emperour, for restoring the Prince Elector Palatine to his lost Estate.

And now the King having thrown away his Crutches (which had as often deceived him as he trusted to them) he began to stand on his own legs, and in short time became more considerable in the eyes of the world then any of his Predecessors. The Spaniardsent hither yearly in English Bottoms no lesse then six hundred thousand Crowns in Bullion, for the use of his Army in the Netherlands, redounding very much to the Kings benefit in the coinage, and no lesse to the profit of the Merchants also, most of the money being returned into Flanders in Leather, Cloth, Lead, Tinne, and other the manufactures and Native Commodities of this Kingdome. The Dutch and Eastenlings

of KING CAARLES. 37

lings lookt upon London as the safest Bank, not onely to lodge, but increase their Treasure; so that in short time the greatest part of the Trade of Christendome was driven up the Thames,

1630.

To make him yet more estimable in the fight of his People, God blest him with a Son, the presumptive Heir of his Dominions, on the twenty ninth of May, Anno 1630. and seconded that blessing with the birth of a Daughter on the fourth of November, in the next year after, as afterwards with a plentifull issue of both Sexes.

1633.

Nor did he meet with any check in his Prosperity till the year 1633. at what time the Coles of Faction and Sedition, which seemed for some years to have been raked up in the ashes of contentment, kindled the next combustible.

mat-

flaming of both Kingdoms. Scotland burneth first, and takes fire on this occasion.

In the minority of King James, the Lands of all Carbedrall Churches and Religious Houses which had been setled on the Crown by Act of Parliament, were thar'd amongst the Lords and great men of that Kingdome, (by the considered of the Earl of Murray, and some other of the Regents) to make them fure unto the fide. And they being thus possessed of the faid Lands, with the Regalities and Tithes belonging to those Ecclesiasticall Corporations, Lorded it with pride and infolence enough in their severall Territories, holding the Clergy to small stipends, and the poor Pailant under a miferable vallalage, and subjection to sheen.

King charles ingaged in War at his first coming to the Crown, and having

ving little aid from thence for the maintenance of it, by the advice of his Council of that Kingdome, was put upon a course of resuming those Lands, Tithes and Regalities into his own hands, to which the present Occupants could pretend no other Title then the unjust usurpation of their Ancestors. This he endeavoured, first by an Act of Revocation, but that course not being like to speed, he followed it in the way of a legal processe, which drew on the Commission for surrendring of Superiorities and Tithes, to be retaken from the King on fuch conditions, as might bring fome profit to the Grown, some Augmentation to the Clergy, and far more ease and benefit to the common people. But these proud scots chuse rather to expose their Countrey to the danger of a publick Ruine, then to part with any of that power (it might be called a Tyranny rather) which they had exercised on their Vustals, as they commonly called them; and thereupon conspired together to oppose the King

gad eKing in any thing that should be offered in the following Parliament, which had relation to the Church or to Church-affaires.

But because Religion and the care thereof, is commonly the best bait to catch the vulgar, they must find out some other means to divert the King from the prosecuting of that Commission, then the consideration of their own personall and private interesse; and they found means to do it on another occasion, which was briefly this.

King James from his first coming to this Crown, had a design to bring the Kirk of Scotland to an uniformity with the Church of England, both in government and forms of worship. And he proceeded so far as to settle Episcopacy amongst them, naming thirteen new Bishops for so many Episcopal Sees as had been anciently in that Church; three of which received Consecration from the Bishops of England, and conferred it on the rest of their Brethren at their

of KING CHARLES. 61

their coming home. Which Bishops he armed also with the power of an High Commission, the better to keep down the infolent and domincering Spirit of the Presbyterians, In order to the other, he procured an Act to be passed in the Assembly at Aberdeen, June 16 6. for composing a Liturgy, and extracting a new Book of Canons out of the scattered Acts of their old Assemblies. At the Assembly held at Perth, Anno 1618. he obtained an Order for receiving the Communion kneeling for administring Baptisine and the Lords Supper in private Houses, in cafes of extreme necessity, for Episcopall Confirmation; and finally, for the celebrating the Anniversaries of our Saviours Birth, his Passion, Resurrection and Afcention, and the coming down of the Holy Ghoft. All which he got to be confirmed in the following Parliament.

So far that wife King had advanced the work of Uniformity, before his engaging in the Cause of the Palati-

nate.

nate. His Breach with Spain, and the War which did iffue upon it took off his thoughts from profecuting that defign, which his fon, being more intangled in Wars abroad and Distempers at home, had no time to finish till he had fetled his Affaires, and attained to some measure both of Power and Glory. But being it was a businesse which was to be acted leisurely and by degrees, not all at once, he first resolved upon passing of an Act of Ratification of all that had been done by his Father, and then to go in hand with the introducing of a publick Liturgie. In the effecting whereof, at fuch time as he went into Scotland to receive that unfortunate Crown, he found a stronger opposition in the Parliament of that Kingdome also, about the passing of that Act of Ratification, then he had reason to expect: But carried it at last by a far major part of that Assembly.

This gave him the first taste of their disaffection to his Person and Government;

ment; but he went forward notwithstanding in pursuit of those purposes, which he brought thither with him. For not long after his return into England, he gave order to the Dean of his Chappell Royal in Edenburgh, that Prayers be read therein according to the English Liturgie; that a Communion be had every moneth, and all Communicants to receive the Sacrament on their knees; that he who officiated, if he be a Bishop, perform it in his Rochet and other Episcopall Robes; and that he do it in his Surplice, if a common Presbyter; and finally; that not onely the Lords of the Council, but the Lords of the Sellion, and as many of the principall Magistrates of that city also as could conveniently, faile not of their attending the Divine Service there on Sundayes and Holydayes: For by this means he gave himself no improbable hopes, that the English Liturgy passing a probationership in the Chappel Royall, might find a plaufible entertainment in the Churches of Edenburgh, and

UMI

dehe

off

de-

tan-

pers

he

to

lo-

ich

de-

red

ion

a-

be

In

85

n-

gr

at

15

m.

r

and be received by degrees in all the rest

ot the Kingdome.

But the Presbyterian Scots not ignorant of the Kings intentions, infinuated into the minds of the common People, that this was a defign onely to subject that pure Kirk to the superstitious Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England, and therefore that it did behove them to stand together as one man to

oppose their entrance.

The Lords and Gentry of that Realm, who feared nothing so much as the Commission of Surrendries before mentioned, laid hold on this occasion also: And they being seconded by some male-contented spirits of that Nation, who had not found the King to be as prodigal of his favours to them as his Father had been before, endeavoured to possesse them with Fears and Jealousses, that Scotland was to be reduced to the form of a Province, and governed by a Deputy or Lord Lieutenant, as Ireland was. The like done also by some Lords of Secret Council, who before had governed as they

they listed, and thought their power diminished, and their persons under some neglect, by the placing of a Lord President over them to direct in chief.

So that the people generally being fooled into this opinion, that both their Christian and Civil Liberty were in no fmall danger, became capable of any impression which the Presbyterian Faction could imprint upon them. Which visibly appeared by a virulent and seditious Libel, published in the year 1634. wherein the King was not onely charged with altering the Government of that kingdome, but traduced for very strong inclinations to the religion of the Church of Rome, The chief Abettor whereof (for the Author was not to be found) was the Lord Balmerino, for which he was legally convicted and condemned of treason, but pardoned by the Kings great goodnesse, and by that pardon kept alive for the mischiefs

The

est

d

e, ct

g-

0

The fire thus breaking out in Scatland, it was no marvel if it had laid hold on England also, the Puritans of both Nations working themselves about this time into a Body, and from henceforth communicating their Counsels and designs unto one another.

The King not long after his return thought fit to renew his Fathers Declaration about lawfull sports on the Lords day: The principall motives whereunto were, the increase of Popery in some parts of the kingdome, occasioned by interdicting all honest Recreations on that day, and the rest of the Holydayes; the tendency of the Sabbatarian Doctrine to down-right Judaisme; fome orders made by fome publick Mimifters of Justice, for suppressing the Annual Feafts of the Dedication of Churches, commonly called Wakes; and finally, the bringing of Dancing, Running, shooting and other harmlesse Recreations, within the compaffe of the Statute made in the first Parliament of his

his Reign against all unlawfull exercises and pastimes; in which no such thing was ever intended. And though the Kings intention in it was onely to ease the people from that yoke of superstition which many of their Preachers had laid upon them; yet by the practise of those Preachers, it made more noise among the People, and wakened more to appear in defence of that which they call Religion, then all the Geese in the Capitol.

Nor did his Majesty speed much better in another of his pious intentions, concerning the Conformity of Parochiall Churches to their Mother Cathedrals. The Dean and Chapter of S. Pauls (as Ordinaries of the place) had appointed the Communion-Table to be placed Altar-wise at the end of the Chancel, where it had stood (and by her injunctions ought to stand) in Queen Elizabeths time. Against this some of the parishioners appealed to the Dean of the Arches, and the Dean and Chapter

to

to the King The cause being heard before his Majesty and the Lords of the Council on the third of November Anno 1623. it pleased his Majesty. having first shewed his dislike of all Innovations, to declare that he well approved and confirmed the Act " of the " faid Ordinary, and also gave com-"mandment, that if those few parishiconers before mentioned, do proceed "in their said Appeal, then the Dean of " the Arches (who was then attending "at the hearing of the cause) shall conif firm the faid Order of the aforesaid "Dean and Chapter. On this encouragement the Archbishop of Canterbury in his Metropoliticall Visitation, beginning in the year next following, and the Suf. fragan Bishops in their severall and respective Diocesses, did appoint the like, for the avoiding of those frequent inconveniences and prophanations which that facred table had formerly been exposed unto.

This made the Puritan Faction open wider then before they did, as foolish-

19

ly afraid of the breaking in of Superstition, by this last Declaration, as of Prophanenesse by the other. And that they might keep pace with the Scots in all particulars, they dispersed many scandalous and seditious Libels against the Government of the Church, and all that acted by and under their Authority, not sparing the King himself if he came in their way; most certain tokens and prognosticks of those great Combustions which soon after followed in both Kingdomes.

1634.

Nor were there any lesse Apprehensions insused into them by some zealous Patriots, who most ambitiously affected the Title of Φιλάνθρωποι ης φιλοπόλεις, in the Orators language, the profest Champions of the Property and Liberty of the English Nation; the occasion this: The Soveraignty of the narrow Seas, had not onely been invaded by the Hollanders during the late D troubles

troubles both at home and abroad; but that invasion had been justified in some publick writings. And thereupon, by the Advice of Mr. Noy his Attorny Generall, he iffued certain writs in the tenth year of his Reign, Anno 1634. directed to all the Port Towns of the Kingdome, to fet out a certain number of Ships furnisht with Mariners, Amunition, Victuals, and all other necessaries, for defence of the Realm; which Writs he afterwards extended also to the inland Counties, following therein the examples of his Predecesfors, with which none was better able to instruct him, then he that gave him that Advice. By means whereof he did not only recover that Dominion which belonged to him on the Sea, but very much improved and enricht the Land, as before is faid. Which notwithstanding, some of the discontented members of the former Parliament, and others of the same party, under colour of standing in defence of the Rights and Properties of the Subject, did stubbornly

bornly oppose the payment of that imposition, in which the Honour, Wealth, and Happinesse of this Kingdome was so much concerned. And though the King had the opinion of all the Judges, under their hands to justifie his proceedings in it; yet chose he rather to proceed against them in a legall way, then to make use of any arbitrary power, or the opinion of Judges, which extrajudicially had been given in the case. And so well did he prosper in it, that when it came to be argued in the Exchequer-chamber, of the twelve Judges, ten absolutely declared themselves for the lawfulnesse of it; the other two (being Crook and Hutton) diffenting openly from that opinion, to which they had formerly subscribed. So that here being a mixture also both of Christian and Civil Liberties, which were given out to be in danger; it is no marvel if the Faction in both Nations did conspire together, to disturb the peace and happinesse of this flourishing Kingdome.

) 2 The

te yye

2

d

g

e

n

d

h

y I,

1-

-

r

8

I 637.

The ground thus laid, it was thought fit the first part of the Tragedy should be plaid in Scotland. The Bishops of that Church, though they liked well enough of the English Liturgy, desired a Liturgy of their own, for fear of acknowledging some dependency of that Church on this; which being compofed amongst themselves, and approved by some of the English Prelates, to whom his Majesty referred the perusall of it, was recommended to the Scots for the use of that Church, and the twenty third day of July, Anno 1637. appointed for the first exercise and reading of it: on this occasion followed the sedition at Edenburgh, encouraged under-hand by the Marquesse of Hamilton, the Earls of Rexberow and Traquair, and many other of the Kings falle fervants, both in Gourt and Councel.

This sedition afterwards brake out into open Action, the principal Stick-

lers

lers against the Book of Common-Prayer, and the Kings proceedings in the same, engaging the whole Nation in a solemn Covenant for the Extirpation of Episcopacy, and whatsoever they were pleased to comprehend under the generall Names of Herefie and Superstition, in which not onely the five Articles of Perth, but the whole Common-Prayer-Book was intended by them. And that they might be fure to keep their party together, they bound themselves in the said Covenant, to stand to one another in pursuance and defence thereof, against all manner of persons whatfoever, the King himself not being excepted. And though the King, by the perswasion of Hamilton here, and his untrusty servants there, gave order for the suppressing of that Liturgy, the High Commission, the book of Canons, and even the Articles of Perth, though confirmed in Parliament, yet nothing could content their pride and infolency, but the utter abolishing of Episcopal government: which since they found

74 The Life and Reign

found the King resolved not to yield unto, they were resolved to do it without him; in their Assembly held at Glasco, abolishing the Episcopal Order, and thundring their Anathema's and excommunications, not onely against the Bishops themselves, but all such as adhered unto them. And that they might be before-hand with him, they intercepted his Revenews, surprised all his Forts and Castles, and finally put themselves into open Armes.

1639.

This forced the King to set forth a-gainst them, accompanied with an Army Royall, and furnished with such a gallant Company of Lords and Gentlemen, as might assure him of a cheap and easie victory. But he conceiving that the terrour of his coming would reduce the Scots to obedience without blows or bloodshed, resolved in himself not to outgo Muster and Ostentation; and thercupon was very easily intreated

ted to refer all differences between them to certain Commissioners of both

Kingdoms.

1-

t

-

.

S

By their negotiation a generall Accord was made at Barmuck on the seventeenth of June Anno 1639. upon which the King presently disbanded his Forces, and returned towards London, having effected nothing by his chargeable expedition, but his making the Scots more insolent then before they were, and giving them a greater Reputation in the eye of the world then before they had; of which he became assured and sensible when it was too late.

For no sooner had he disbanded his Army, but the Pacification (such as it was) was openly protested against in the Scots Army; and many false copies of it were scattered abroad, to make it more dishonourable to the King, and of more advantage to themselves. The Officers of their Army were retained in pay, the old form of holding Parliaments in that Kingdome was altered by

by them, and the prerogatives of the Grown invaded; their words and actions tending to a more generall Defection then before. So that the King was fain to call home his Sheat: Anchor the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, whom not long after he created Earl of Strafford, in the County of Tork. By whose advice, seconded by the Archbishop of Canterbury, his Majesty about the beginning of December gave a publick intimation of a Parliament, to begin on the thirteenth day of April then next following.

And it was intimated so long beforehand for these two reasons. First, that the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland might in the mean time hold a Parliament in that Kingdome, which he did, and managed so much to the Kings advantage, that an Army of 8000 Horse and Foot was speedily raised, and money granted by the Parliament to keep them in pay, and surnish them with Ammunition, Arms, and all other necessaries. Secondly, that by the Reputation of a

following Parliament, he might be the better enabled to borrow money for the carrying on of the war, in cafe the Parliament should fail him, as it after did. For being come together at the time appointed, instead of Acting any thing in order to his Majesties service, they were at the point of passing a Vote for blasting his war against the Souts. To prevent which his Majesty was forced to dissolve them on the fifth of May, the Convocation still continuing, who granted him a Benevolence of foure shillings in the pound for all their Fcclesiasticall promotions, to be paid fix years together then next ensuing.

The Members of the dissolved Parliament inflamed the peeple in all parts of the Kingdome with fuch discontentments, which actually brake out in Southwark into open sedition, not pacified without much danger, and the executing of the principal Leader. In the middle of which Distempers his Majesty was bleft with a third Son, born on the

D 5

eight:

gr

n c.ef

eight of *July*, Christned by the name of *Henry*, and by his majesties command called Duke of *Glocester*.

1640.

To welcome this young Prince into the world, the Scots put themselves into Armes again, and backt by a strong faction here, thought that they could not do enough by standing on their defence at home, unlesse they entred England also, as they did accordingly. But they took not his Majesty unprovided, who had raised another gallant Army ainder the command of the Earl of Northumberland, as chief Generall, and the Earl of Strafford as the chief Commander under him; himself with all speed posting towards the North, as soon as the News of this invalion had been brought unto him. But scarce was he well fetled in the head of his Army, but he was followed by a Petition from some Lords of England, conformable in the main points of it to a

Declaration of the Scots, which they called the Intention of the Army. that the Cloud which gathered behind him in the South, threatned more danger to him then the Northern Tempest,

which blew directly in his teeth.

Sailing thus between Scylla and Charibdis, it concerned him to steer as even a course as the could, and thereupon he summoned the great Councel of his Peers to attend him at York, that doing nothing in this great businesse without their advice, he might give himself the better hopes of their affiltance, as his occasions should require. By their advice Commissioners are appointed to treat with the Scots, to understand their Grievances, the reasonablenesse or unreasonablenesse of their Demands, and finally to make up the breach by fuch an Accommodation as might conduce to the peace and happinesse of both Kingdomes, and his Majesties. honour.

In the mean time he calls a Parliament, to begin at westminster the third day

of

1- gd - - el, y - e

day of November then next following, which if it had been held at York, as lying nearest to the danger and Scene of action, might not have proved so fatall and destructive to him as it after did.

In the beginning of this Parliament, he cast himself on the love and loyalty of his English Subjects, in which he found himself deceived of his expectation. For the first thing they did, was to deprive him of the Gounsels of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, and thereby to terrific all others from adhering to him in the times of his greatest need. These they impeacht of High Treason, removed them from the House of Peers, and committed them to the Tower of London, where the Archbishop staid four years before any particular charge, or any profecution upon that charge, was brought against him. But with the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland they made quicker work, inviting the People of all the three Kingdomes to bring them in such math

of KING CAAR LES. 81

matter as they had or could devise a-gainst him; and having made all things ready for a publick Tryall, they brought him to the Bar before the Peers, sitting in Westminster-Hall on the sixth of April then next following; but he so rationally pleaded in his own behalf, and so fully satisfied all objections which were made against him, that the Commons were fain to desist from the Course which they had begun, and to proceed against him in a Bill of Attainder,

For the better passing whereof the Commons framed a Protestation on the third of May, in many things not unlike the Scotish Covenant before mentioned, by which they bound themselves among other things, to maintain and defend the Power and Priviledges of Parliament, the lanfull Rights and Liberties of the Subject, to endeavour to bring to condigne punishment all such as shall either by Force, Practice, Plots, Counsels and Conspiracies, or otherwse, do any thing to the contrary; (amongst which

they reckon the Earl of Strafford to be one) and finally to standanto one another, and to every other person what sever in any thing he shall do in pursuance of the said Protestation. Which Protestation being first taken by themselves, was the next day taken also by the House of Peers, and not long after obtruded on

all the rest of the Kingdom.

But not finding this sufficient to effect their purpose, they first forced the Lords by Tumults, and afterwards the King by their importunities to passe that unhappy Bill of Attainder; which having obtained, they brought him to the Scaffold on Tower-Hill on the thirteenth of May, where with as much Christian considence and magnanimity as could be exprest by slesh and blood, he delivered up his neck to the Executioner.

In order to this great work which they knew the Scots much laboured for, and had declared to much in a Pamphlet called The intentions of the Army, at their first coming into England, the lea-

ding

ding men in the house of Commons held a strict correspondency with the Scots Commissioners then residing in London, and voted no leffe then three hundred thousand pounds (by the name of a brotherly Assistance) to be given to the Scots in generall, under colour of repairing such damages as they had fustained in the time of this breach, but in plain truth to bind them fast unto themselves. And having made sure work with them, they deprived the King by little and little of almost all the ancient and undoubted prerogatives which of right belonged unto his Crown.

The power of calling Parliaments, in case of his neglect or refusall, is put into the hands of Sheriffs and Constables; his right to Tonnage and Poundage must be disclaimed by Act of Parliament; the Bill of the Attainder of the Earl of Strafford, and that for the continuance of this Parliament during the pleasure of the Houses, are extorted by fumults. And by the terrour of the like

IMI

be

er,

in

he

on

he

of

on

a

10

16

Te

h

rh

y I,

like, the Act for Knighthood is repealed, and the imposition for ship-mony condemned as an illegall Tax, and abolifhed also. The like Acts passed against the office of the Clerk of the Market, the Court of Stanneries, his propriety in the making of Gun-powder, the authority of the Council-Table, the Courts of Star-chamber and High Commission, the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiasticall Courts, as also the Presidiall Courts held for a long time in Tork and the Marches of Wales. And finally, that he might lose both his strength in Parliament and his power with the People, they extorted the passing of two Acts, the one for taking away the Bishops Votes and place in the House of Peers, the other for disclaiming of his power in pressing Souldiers (enjoyed by all his Predecessors) for defence of his Person and the Realm.

And that they might the better awe the King to their Concessions, the Army of the Scots must be maintained with

of KING CHARLES. 85

with pay and plunder, till there was almost nothing left for them to crave, or the King to grant. But being at the last fent home, his Majesty followed not long after to fettle his affairs in that broken kingdome; where to oblige that Nation to him, he confirmed not onely all his former concessions by Act of Parliament, but all fuch things also as had been acted by them in their Assembly held at Glasco. And more then so, he parted with so much of his royall Prerogative (invaded and usurped by them in the late Confusions) that he had almost nothing lest remaining to him, but the empty Title, the having of a Sword carried before him, and some other outward pomps of Court, which fignific just nothing when the power is gone.

This good successe of the Scots encouraged the Irish Papists to attempt the like, and to attempt it in the same way as the Scots had gone; that is to say, by seizing his Towns, Forts, and Castles, putting themselves into the body of

y - e

S

an Army, banishing or imprisoning all such as oppose their practises, and then petitioning the King for a publick Exercise of their Religion. The 23. of O-Etober Anno 1641. was the day designed for the seizing of the City and Castle of Dublin, and many places of great importance in the Kingdom. But failing in the main design which had been discovered the night before by one Ocanelle, they break out into open arms, dealing no better with the Protestants there then the Covenanters had done with the Royall party in Scotland.

Of this Rebellion (for it must be called a Rebellion in the Irish, though not in the Scots) the King gives present notice to his Houses of Parliament, requiring their counsel and assistance for the extinguishing of that slame before it had wasted and consumed that Kingdome. But neither the necessity of the Protestants there, nor the Kings importunity here, could perswade them to levie one man towards the suppression

all

en

X-

0-

bs

of

n-

ig if-

a-

5,

ts

16

ot

)i-

e

e

-

n

f

of those Rebels, till the King had disclaimed his power of pressing souldiers in an Act of Parliament, and thereby laid himself open to such acts of violence as were then hammering against him. Which having done, they put an army of Scots (their most affured Friends) into the Northern parts of Ireland, delivering up into their hands the strong Town and Port of Carickfergus, one of the chief keys of that Kingdom; and afterwards sent a small body of English to preserve the South, which English forces having done notable fervice there against the Rebels, were kept fo fhort both in respect of pay and other necessaries by the Houses of Parliament, (who had made use of the mony raised for the relief of Ireland to maintain a War against their King) that they were forced to come to a Cessation, and cheerfully returned home again to affife the King in that just War which he had undertaken for his own defence. The ground and occasion of which War we tre next to shew.

At fuch time as he was in Scotland and expostulated with some of the chiefs among them, touching their coming into England in an hostile manner, he found that some who were now leading men in the Houses of Parliament had invited them to it. And having furnished himtelf with some proofs for it, he commanded his Attorney Generall to impeach some of them of high Treason; that is to fay, the L. Kimbolton, a Member of the House of Peers, Mr. Hollis, Sir Arthur Hasterig, Mr. Hambden, Mr. Pym, and Mr. strode, of the House of Commods. But sending a Serjeant at Arms to arrest their persons, there came a countermand from the House of Commons, by which the Serjeant was deterred from doing his office, and the Members had the opportunity of putting themselves into the Sanduary of the City. The next day, being the 4. of January, his Majesty being no otherwise attended then with his ordinary Guard, went to the House of Commons to demand the five Members of that House, that he nlight

might proceed against them in a way of justice; but his intention was discovered, and the birds flown before his coming.

This was voted by the Commons for fuch an inexpiable breach of priviledge, that neither the Kings qualifying of that Action, nor his defifting from the profecution of that impeachment, nor any thing that he could either fay or do, would give fatisfaction. Nothing must satisfie their jealouses and secure their fears, but the putting of the tower of London into their hands, together with the command of the Royal Navie, as also all the Forts, Castles, and the Trainbands of the Kingdome, all comprehended under the name of the Militia; which if his Majesty would fling after all the rest, they would continue his most loyall subjects. On this the King demurs a while, but having shipt the Queen for Holland, and got the Prince into his own power, he becomes more resolute, and stoutly holds on the denyal.

Finding the Members too strong for him, and London, by reason of the

nd

a-

nd

in ed

nn-

n-1;

F.

f

e

-

continuall Tumults, to be a dangerous neighbour to him, he withdraws to York, that being in a place of safety, he might the better find a way to compose those differences which now began to embroil the kingdome, At Hull he had a Magazine of arms and ammunition provided for the late intended war against the Scots, and laid up there when the occasion of that War was taken away. Of this Town he intended to possessie himself, and to make use of his own Arms and Ammunition for his own preservation; but coming before the Gates of the Town, he was denyed entrance by Sir John Hotham, who by the appointment of the House of Commons had took charge of that place.

The Gentry of York-shire who had petitioned the King to secure that Magazin, became hereby more firmly united to him. The like had been done also by the Yeomandry, and those of the inferiour sort, if his proceedings had not been undermined by the Committee of sour Gentlemen, all Memmittee of sour Gentlemen, all Mem-

bers

bers of the House, and all of them Natives of that Countrey, sent thither purposely (in a new and unprecedent way) to lie as Spies upon his Counsels, and as controllers to his actions.

Some Messages there were betwixt him and the Houses of Parliament, concerning the attoning of these differences, whilst he was at York. But the XIX. Propositions sent thither to him, did declare sufficiently that there was no peace to be expected on his part, unless he had made himself a cypher, a thing of no signification in the Arithmetick of State.

And now the War begins to open. The Parliament had their Guards already, and the Affront which Hotham had put upon his Majesty at Hull, prompted the Gentlemen of York-shire to tender themselves for a Guard to his Person. This presently voted by both Houses to be a levying of War against the Parliament, for whose defence, not onely the Train-bands of London must be in readinesse, and the good people of the

IS

0

3-1-11

d

C

the countrey required to put themfelves into a posture of arms; but Regiments of Horse and Foot are listed, a Generall appointed, great summes of Money raised, and all this under pretence of taking the King out of the hands of his evil Counsellours.

The noise of these preparations haftens the King from Torke to Noting-ham, where he sets up his Standard, inviting all his good Subjects to repair unto him, for defence of their King, the Lawes and Religion of their Gountrey. He increased his Forces as he marched, which could not come unto the reputation of an Army, till he came into Shropshire, where great bodies of the loyall and stout-hearted welch resorted to him.

Strengthened with these, and surnisht sufficiently with Field Pieces, Armes and Ammunition, which the Queen had sent to him out of Holland, he resolves upon his march towards London; but

1 on

on sunday the twenty third of October was encountred in the way, at a placecalled Edge-Hill, by the Parliament Forces. The Fight very terrible for the time, no fewer then five thousand men flain upon the place; the Prologue to a greater saughter, if the dark night had not put an end unto that dispute.

Each part pretended to the victory, but it went clearly on the Kings fide, who though he loft his Generall, yet he kept the Field, and posfessed himself of the dead bodies; and not so onely, but he made his way open unto London, and in his way forced Banbury Castle, in the very sight as it were of the Earl of Esex, who with his flying Army made all the hafte he could towards the City (that he might be there before the King) to secure the Parliament. More certain figns there could not be of an absolute victory.

In the Battel of Taro, between the Confederates of Italy and Charles the eight of France, it hapned so that the Con-

fede-

federates kept the Field, possest themfelves of the Camp, Baggage and Artillery, which the French in their breaking through had left behind them. Hereupon a dispute was raised, to whom the Honour of that day did of right belong; which all knowing and impartiall men gave unto the French. though they loft the Field, their Camp, Artillery and Baggage, yet they obtained what they fought for, which was the opening of their way to France, and which the Confederates did intend to deprive them of. Which resolution in that case may be a ruling case to this; the King having not only kept the Field, possest himself of the dead bodies, pillaged the carriages of the enemy, but forcibly opened his way towards London, which the enemy endeavoured to hinder, and finally entred triumphantly into Oxford, with no fewer then an hundred and twenty Colours taken in the Fight.

Having assured himself of Oxford for his winter Quarters, he resolved on his

Ad-

Advance towards London, but had made fo many halts in the way, that Effex was got thither before him; who had disposed of his Forces at Kingston, Brentford, Acton, and some other places thereabouts, not onely to stop his march, but to fall upon him in the Rear, as Yet he goes forward occasion served. notwithstanding as far as Brent ford, out of which he beats two of their best Regiments, takes five hundred Prisoners, finks their Ordnance, with an intent to march forwards on the morrow after being sunday, and the twelfth of November. But understanding that the Earl of Effex had drawn his Forces out of Kingston, and joyning with the London Auxiliaries, lay in the way before him at a place called Turnham-Green neer Cheswick, it was thought fafer to retreat towards Oxford while the way was open, then to venture his Army to the fortune of a second Battel, which if it were lost it would be utterly impossible for him to raise another.

E 2

t

1

n

S

At Oxford he receives Propositions of peace from the Houses of Parliament, but such as rather did beseem a conquering then a losing side. But being resolved to treat upon them howsoever, he found the Commissioners so straitned in time, and so tied to such particular instructions as the Houses had given them, that nothing could be yielded to which might conduce to the composing of the present Distempers.

At the opening of the Spring, the Queen came to him, who had landed at a place in York-shire called Burling-ton-Bay in the end of February, and now brought with her unto Oxford some supplies of men with a considerable stock of Powder, Arms, and Ammu-

nition.

1643.

The next Summer makes him master of the North and West, some few places onely being excepted. The Earl of New-castle with his Northern Army had cleared

red all parts beyond Trent (but the Town of Hull) of the enemies Forces. And with his own Army under the command of Prince Rupert, and Prince Maurice (two of the younger Sons of his Sister Elizabeth Queen of Bohemia) he reduced the Cities of Brifol, and Exeter, the Port Town of Waymouth, and all the Towns of any importance in the Vvestern parts, except Pool, Lime and Plimouth. So that he was in a manner the absolute Commander of the Counties of VVilts, Dorfet Somerfet, Devon, and Cornwall, And though the Towns of Plimouth, Lime, and Pool still held out against him, yet were they so bridled by his neighbouring Garrisons, that they were not able to create him any great Disturbance.

The noise of these successes was so loud at London, that most of the leading men in both Houses of Parliament prepared for quitting of the Kingdome, and had undoubtedly so done, if the King had followed his good fortunes,

E 3

and advanced towards London. But unhappily diverting upon Glocester, he lay fo long there, without doing any thing to the purpose, that the Earl of Effex came time enough to raise the Siege and relieve the Town, though he made not hast enough to recover London without blowes. For besides some skirmishes on the by, which fell out to his losse, the King with the whole body of his Army overtook him at Newberry, where after a sharp fight (with the losse of the Farl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Sunderland, and the Lord Viscount Falkland on his Majesties side) he had the worst of the day, and had much ado to fave his Canon, and march off orderly from the place; followed fo hotly the next morning, that his own Horse, which were in the Reere, were fain to make their way over a great part of his Foot, to preserve themfelves.

Being returned to Oxford with Successe and Honour, he Summons the Lords and Commons of Parliament to attend

attend there on the twenty second day of January then next following; and they came accordingly. And for their better welcome, he advances Prince Rupert to the Titles of Earl of Holdernes and Duke of Cumberland, and creates James his second Son (born the eleventh day of October, Anno 1623) Duke of Tork, by which name he had been appointed to be called at the time of his Birth, that they might fit and vote amongst them. But being come, they neither would take upon themselves the name of a Parliament, nor acted much in order to his Majesties designs; but stood so much upon their terms, and made so many unhandsome motions to him upon all occasions, that he had more reason to call them a Mongrel' Parliament in one of his Letters to the Queen, then they were willing to allow of.

1644.

And now the Summer coming on and and

100 The Life and Reign

and the time fit for Action, he difmisses them to their severall dwellings, and betakes himself unto the Field. The frequent traverses whereof, the interchangeable taking and losing of Towns by the chance of war, are too many in number to be comprised in this short Abstract. It must suffice if I take notice of those onely which are most considerable.

His Majesty prevailing in the North and West, 'twas thought sit by the ruling party in the Houses of Parliament, to crave aid of the Scots, whom they drew in the second time, by the temptations of entring into Covenant with them, for conforming of this Church with that, sharing amongs them all the Lands of the Bishops, and sacrificing to their malice the Archbishop of Canterbury, as formerly they had done the Earl of Strafferd. But besides these plausible allurements, the Commissioners of that Kingdome were to have so great a stroke in the Government

of KING CHARLES. 101

of this, that the Houses could act nothing in order to the present war, no not so much as to hold a Treaty with the King, without their consent.

Upon these baits they entred England with a puissant Army consisting of one and twenty thousand men well armed, and sitted for the service: and having made themselves Masters of Barmick, Newcastle, and all other places of importance on the other side of the Tweed, they laid Siege to York, where they were seconded by the Army of the Earl of Manchester drawn out of the associated Counties, and the remaining York-shire Forces under the Command of the Lord Fairfax.

The news whereof being brought to Oxford, Prince Rupert is dispatcht with as much of the Kings forces as could well be spared, with a Commission to raise more out of the Counties of Chester, Salop, Stafford, Darby, Leicester, and Lancaster. So that he came before E 5 York:

York with an Army of twelve thousand Men, relieved the Town with all things necessary, and might have gone away unfought with, but that fuch Counsell was too cold for so hot a stomach. Resolved upon the onset, he encountred with the enemy at a place called Marston-moor, where the left Wing of his Horse gave such a fierce Charge on the right Wing of the enemy, consisting of Sir Thomas Fairfax his Horse in the Van, and the Scots Horse in the Reere that they fell foul on that part of their own Foot which was made up of the Lord Fairfax his Regiments, and a referve of the Scots, which they brake wholly, and trod most of them under their Horses feet. But the Princes Horse following the execution too far, and none advancing to make good the place which they had left, the enemy had the opportunity to rally again, and got the better of the day; taking some Prisofoners of good note, and making themselves masters of his Canon. So that not being able to do any thing in or-

of KING CHARLES. 101

der to the regaining of the Field he marched off ingloriously, squandred away the greatest part of his Army, and retired to Bristol.

After this blow the Affairs of the North growing more desperate every day then other, York yielded upon composition on the sixteenth of July (being a just fortnight after the fight) the Marquesse of Newcastle and some principals. Gentlemen past over the Seas, and the strong Town of Newcastle was taken by the Scots on the nineteenth of October following.

In the mean time, the Queen being with child, began to draw neer the time of her Delivery. And it was generally believed that the Earl of Effect with his Forces had some aim on Oxford, as the Seat Royall of the King, the Residence of his Court and Council, and the Sanctuary of a considerable part of the Nobility, Gentry and Clergy. In which respect it was thought fit that the Queen should remove to Exceter,

104 The Life and Reign

Exceter, as a place more remote from danger, and not far from the Sea, by which she might take shipping for France as occasion served.

On the fixteenth of April she began her journey, the King bearing her company as far as Abingdon, where they took leave of one another, neither of them having any the least presage, that the parting Kisse which they then took was to be their last. Genvoi'd with a sufficient strength of Horse for her security on the way, she was received there with as much magnificence as that City was able to expresse; and on the sixteenth day of June was safely delivered of a Daughter, whom she Christened by the name of Henrietta.

Affoon as she had well passed over the weaknesses and infirmities incident to Child-bed, she committed the young Princesse to the Lady Dalkeith, a Daughter of Sir Edward Villiers, one of the balf Brothers of the Duke of Bucking-

of KING CAARLES. 105

ham, and wife unto the Lord Dalkeith, the eldest Son of the Farl of Morson. Which having done (according to some instructions which she had received from the King) she took shipping at Pendennis Castle on the sisteenth of July, and passed into France, there to negotiate for some supplies of money, Arms and Ammunition for the advance of his Majesties service, and to continue howsoever in the Court of the King her Brother, till she might return again in Honour and safety.

And to fay truth, her Removall from Oxford was not onely seasonable, but exceeding necessary at that time, the Earl of Esex, and Sir William Waller with their severall Forces not long after her departure drawing neer to Oxford; on whose approach his Majesty leaving the greatest part of his Army for defence of that place, marched on directly towards VVales. Upon the News whereof, it was thought sit by the two Generalls, to divide their Armies;

Armies; it being agreed upon that Sir william Waller should pursue the King, and that the Earl of Essex should march towards the west, for the regaining of those Countries.

And now the mystery of iniquity appeared in its proper colours: For whereas it was formerly given out by the Houses of Parliament, that they had undertaken the war, for no other reason but to remove the King from his evil Counsellors: those evil Counsellours were left at Oxford unmolested, and the Kings Person onely hunted.

But the King understanding of this division, thought himself able enough to deal with Waller, and giving him the go by, returned towards Oxford, drew thence the remainder of his Army, and gave him a sharp meeting at a place called Cropredy-bridge, where he obtained a signal victory on the twenty eighth of Fune, and entred triumphantly into Oxford. This done he marched after the Earl of Esex, who had made himself master of some places in the West of good importance.

of KING CAARLES. 105

During this march, it hapned that one of the Carriages brake in a long narrow lane which they were to passe, and gave his Majesty a stop at a time of an intollerable shower of rain which fell upon him: Some of his Courtiers, and others which were neer about him, offerred to hew him out a way through the hedges with their fwords, that he might get shelter in some of the Villages adjoyning; but he resolved not to forfake his Canon upon any occasion. At which when fome about him feemed to admire, and marvelled at the patience which he shewed in that extremity, his Majesty lifting up his hat, made answer, That as God had given him Afflictions to exercise his patience, so he had given him patience to bear his Af-A speech so heavenly and Diflictions. vine, that it is hardly to be parallel'd by any of the men of God in all the Scripture.

The cariage being mended, he went forward again, and trod so close upon the heels of the Earl of Essex, that at

laft

last he drave him into Cornwall, and there reduced him to that point, that he put himself into a Cock-boat with Sir Philip Stapleton and some others, and lest his whole army to his Majesties mercy. His Horse taking the advantage of a dark night, made a shift to escape, but the Commanders of the Foot came to this capitulation with his Majesty, that they should depart without their Arms, which with their Canon, Baggage and Ammunition, being of very great consideration, were lest wholly to his disposing.

Immediately after this successe, his Majesty dispatch'd a message from Tavestock to the two houses of Parliament, in which he laid before them the miserable condition of the Kingdome; remembring them of those many messages which he had formerly sent unto them, for an accommodation of the present Differences; and now desiring them to bethink themselves of some expedient by which this issue of blood might be dried up, the distraction of the

of KING CHARLES. 109

the Kingdome fetled, and the whole Nation put into an hope of Peace and

Happinesse.

To which Message, as to many others before, they either gave no anfwer, or fuch an one as rather ferved to widen, than close the breach, falsely conceiving that all his Majesties offers of Grace and Favour proceeded either from an inability to hold out the War, or from the weaknesse and irresolution of his Counsels. So that the Trage-Comedy of the two Harlots in the first of Kings, may feem to have been acted over again on the Stage of England. The King, like the true Mother, compassionately desired that the life of the poor infant might be preserved; the Houses, like the false Mother, considering that they could not have the whole, voted that it should be neither mine nor thine, but divided betwixt them.

But if instead of this Message from Taveflock, his Majesty had gone on his own errand, and marched with his

Army towards London, it was conceived that in all probability he might have made an end of the War; the Army of Effex being thus broken, and that of Manchester not returned from the Northern service. But sitting down before Plimouth, and Staying there to perfect an Association of the Western Counties, he spent so much time, that Effex was again in the head of his Army; being seconded by the Earl of Manchester and Sir VVilliam VValler, made a stand at Newbery, where after a very hot fight, with variable successe on both sides, each party drew off by degrees, so that neither of them could find cause to boast of the victory.

Winter comes on, which though it be not ordinarily a time of action, will not withstanding afford us some variety which will not be unworthy of our observation. And first, a Garrison is formed at Abington, (a Town within five miles of Oxford) by order from the two Houses of Parliament, under the command of Collonel Brown; the King and Coun-

of KING CHARLES. 109

Councill looking on, and suffering the Intrenchments to be made, the Works to be raised, and the Ordnance to be

planted on the same.

It cannot be denyed, but that Sir Henry Gage, Governour at that time of oxford, and many of the chief Commanders which were then in and about that city, offered their fervice to the King, and earnestly desired leave to prevent that milchief which by the Intrenchments of this Town must needs fall upon them. But the Lord George Digby, not long before made principall Secretary of Estate, had perswaded the King unto the contrary, upon affurance that he held intelligence with Brown, and that as foon as the Town was fortified and furnished with Victuall, Arms and Ammunition, at the charges of the Houses of Parliament, it would immemediately be delivered into his majesties hand. In which design he was out-witted, and consequently exposed unto some loss of reputation with all forts of people. For Brown having brought

brought his project to the highest round of the ladder (as himself expressed it) thought it high time to turne it off, and to declare himself for the two Houses against the King; printing not long after all the Letters which passed between him and the Lord Digby upon this occasion.

After this followed the taking of Shrewsbury, a place of very great importance to the King, as the Gate which opened into VVales, situate on a rising ground, and almost encompassed round about by the river Severn; that part which is not invironed by water, being wholly taken up and made good by a very strong Castle, By the loss of which Town the Kings former entercourse with his loyall Subjects of North-VVales was not onely hindred, but a present stop was given to an Association, which was then upon the point of concluding between the Counties of Salop, Flint, Chester, VVorcester, &c. to the great prejudice of the Kings affairs in those Parts of the Kingdome.

Then

Then comes the lamentable death of the Arch-bishop of Canterbury, kept for four years a prisoner in the Tower of London, as before was faid; but referved onely as a bait to bring in the Scots, whenfoever the Houses should have occasion for their second coming; as formerly on the like temptation they had drawn them in, with reference to the Earl of Strafford. The Scots being come, and doing good service in the North, it was thought fit they should be gratified with that blood which they fo greedily thirsted after. And thereupon the Archbishop being voted guilty of High Treaton by the House of Commons, was condemned to die in fuch a slender House of Lords, that onely feven (viz. the Earls of Kent, Pembroke, Salisbury, and Bullingbrook, the Lords North, Gray and Brems) were present at the passing of the sentence Which being of his condemnation. past, he was brought unto the Scaffold on Tower-hil on the tenth of January, where he ended his life with fuch a modeft

dest confidence, and so much piety, that his greatest enemies then present, who came to behold the Execution with hearts sull of joy, returned back with eyes as sull of tears.

Last of all, comes another Treaty sollicited by the King, confented to by the Houses with no small difficulty, and that upon condition to have the Treaty held at Uxbridge, a Town about fifteen miles from London, and more then twice as much from Oxford. According unto which appointment the Commissioners met on the thirtieth of fanuary, accompanied with some Divines, for debating the point of Church Government, when it came in question. But this Treaty proved as unsuccessefull as that at Oxford had done before; the Commissioners for the Houses offering no expedient for an Accommodation, nor hearkening unto such as were tendred to them in the name of the King. So that there being no hope of bringing the Warre unto an end tLis

this way, both parties were resolved

to proceed in the other.

The King having wintred his Army at Oxford and the Towns adjoyning, it was thought fit to fend the Prince into the West to perfect the Association which had been begun in the end of the last summer: and in those Countries to advance such further forces as might not onely ferve for the defence of themfelves, but give some reasonable increase

to his Majesties Army.

In the beginning of April he fet forwards towards Bristol, accompanied with the Lord Culpeper and Sir Edward Hide, as his principall Counsellours, and some of the chief Gentry of the West, who were of most authority in their feverall Countreys. But before he had made himself master of any considerable strength, news came of the unfortunate successe of the Battel of Naseby, which much retarded his proceedings; and hearing afterwards that Sir Thomas Fairfax with his victorious Army was marching towards him, he quit-

quitted Somerset-shire, and drew more Westward into the middle of Devon-

fire.

affairs growing worse and worse, both there and elsewhere, he sent a Message unto Fairfax, desiring a safe conduct for the Lord Hopton and the Lord Culpeper to go to the King and mediate with him for a Treaty with the Parliament. To which after a fortnights deliberation, he receives an answer the eight of November to this effect, That if he would disband his Army, and apply himself unto the Parliament, the Generall himself in person would consuct this thin thither.

No hopes of doing good this way, and lesse the other, Exeter being besieged, and Barnstable taken by the enemies forces, he leaves his Army to the Lord Hopton, and withdraws into the Dukedome of Cornwall. But finding that Countrey unable to protect him long, he passeth into the Isle of Silly, and from themse unto the Queen his

of KING CHARLES. 117

Mother, whom he found at Paris, not doubting but to receive such entertainment in that Court, as might be justly looked for by the eldest Son of a Daughter of France. Which passages I have laid together in this place, that I might follow his Majesties affairs elsewhere with the less interruption.

The Prince being gone for Bristoll, as before is said, his Majesty resolved on the approch of Summer, to relieve such of his Northern Garrisons; as had been lest untaken the year before, and from thence to bestow a visit on the associated Counties. But being on his march, and having stormed the Town of Leicester in his way, he returned again so far as Daventry, upon the news that Sir Thomas Fairfax newly made Generall in the place of Essex, was sate down before Oxford.

Concerning which we are to know, that not long after the beginning of this everlasting Parliament, the Puritan

F Faction

IIMI

e

e

e

m

is

0-

Faction became subdivided into Presbyterians and Independents; of which the Presbyterians at the first carryed all before them. The Independents growing up by little and little, and being better studied in the arts of dissimulation, eafily undermined the others, and outed their Lord Generall, and all that commanded under him, of their severall places, under colour of an Ordinance for Self-denyall. That done, they conferred that command on Sir Thomas Fairfax, a man of more Precipitation then Prudence, not so fit for Counfell as Execution, and better to charge on an Enemy then command an Army. With him they joyned Collonel Oliver Cromwel (whom they dispensed with in the point of self-denyall) by the name of Lieutenant General; but fo that he disposed of all things as Commander in chief, and left Fairfax to his old trade of Execution, to which he had been accustomed.

The like alteration happened also in the Kings Army; Collonel Sir Patrick
Ruthen,

Ruthen, a man of approved valour and Fidelity, being by his Majesty made Earl of Forth in Scotland, was on the death of the Earl of Lindsey made the Lord Lieutenant of his Armies; and the next year made Earl of Brentford, for the good fervice he had done in that place. Having both fortunately and faithfully discharged that office for two years and more, he was outed of his place by a Court-contrivement made in the favour of Prince Rupert, who a little before Christmas last was declared Generallissimo of his Majesties Forces: which he most ambitiously aspired unto, and at last obtained, notwith-Standing his late defeat at Marston-Moorhis squandring away so brave an army, and his apparent want of Age, Experience and Moderation for lo great a truft.

By these new Generals the fortune of the War, and the whole estate of the Kingdome, which lay then at stake, came to be decided. For Fair fax hearing that the King was come back as far as

Daventry

Daventry (which was the matter he defired) made directly towards him, with an intent to give him battel, and at a place neer Naseby in Northamptonshire, the two Armies met on Saturday the 14. of fune. The King had the better at the first, but Prince Rupert having routed one wing of the enemies Horse, followed the chace so unadvisedly, that he left the foot open to the other wing; who pressing hotly on them, put them to an absolute rout, and made themselves Masters of his Camp, Carriage and Canon, and amongst other things, of his Majesties Cabinet, in which they found many of his Letters, most of them written to the Queen, which were after publisht with little honour to them that did it. For whereas the Athenians on the like successe had intercepted a packet of Letters from Philp King of Macedon, their most bitter enemy, unto severall friends, all the rest of those Letters being broke open before the Common Council of Athens, one of which was subscribed to the Queen

Queen Olympias, was returned untoucht; the whole Senate thinking it a shame-full and dishonest act to discover and betray the Conjugals secrets betwixt man and wife. A modesty in which those of Athens stand as much commended by Helladius Bisantinus, an ancient Writer, as the chief leading men of the Houses of Parliament are like to stand condemned for the want of it in succeeding Histories.

But we return unto the King; who having saved himself by flight, gathered together some part of his scattered Forces, but never was able to make head against the conquerors; losing one place after another, till his whole strength was almost reduced to Oxford, and some sew Garrisons adjoyning. I shall take notice onely of some of the principal; viz. Chester, Conway, Hereford, Bristol, and Exeter, on which so great a part of his affairs did most e-specially depend.

F 3

Chefter

Chefter first comes within the danger, a City of great importance in those parts of the Kingdome. To the relief of this place then besieged by Sir VVilliam Brereton, Collonel Jones, and others of that party, and at that time brought to fome distresse, he made all the convenient speed he could; but was pursued upon the way, and charged in front by the besiegers, betwixt whom this fmall Army was routed at a place called Bauton-Heath, and the Lord Bernard Stuart (newly created Earl of Lichfield) killed upon the place; the last of three brethren that had loft their lives in their Princes quarrell.

On this discomfiture, the King draws towards the North-East, and commands the Lord Digby with the Remainder of his Horse to march for Scotland, and there to joyn with the Marquesse of Montrosse, who with small strengths had acted Miracles in that Kingdome. But at a Village in Tork-shire called Sherbourn (a fatall name, but pointing to another place) where he sur prized 700 of the Parliaments Foot,

of KING CHARLES. 123

he was set upon by Collonel Coply, his Forces made drunk with the good fortune of the day very easily mastered, and he himself compelled to sly into Ireland, never returning since that time

to his Native Country.

But notwithstanding the Kings misfortune before mentioned, which happened on the twenty ninth of September,
the Lord Byron, who had the command
of the Garrison in Chester, held it out
gallantly till the first of February; and
then perceiving that there was no hopes
of any Succour, came to an honourable composition, and gave up the Town,
the greatest part of the Countrey falling
into the same condition with their mother Gity.

Before we leave the North-west parts, we must look upon the fortune of the Town and Gastle of Conway, a place of principall Command on that narrow Channell which runneth between the County of Carnarvon and the Isle of Anglesey, Before this Town, being then besieged by Collonel Mit-

F 4 ton30

ton came Doctor John Williams, formerly Lord Keeper of the great Seal of England, and at that time Arch-bishop of rork: Who to ingratiate himself with the Houses of Parliament, and to fave the charges of compounding for Delinquency, came with some forces to the aid of the Besiegers (some say in Armour) and encamped there till the place was taken; to the Amazement of the world and the eternall infamy

and Reproch of his Person.

Bristol comes next, a place conveniently seated for the Trade of spain, the River capable of great Ships, and the port well guarded. At the taking of this City by the Kings Forces, to fuch strengths as before it had, there was added a Fort Royall (as they called it) then conceived impregnable; into this City Prince Rupert (who had spent there too much of the year before)had put himself at the present, and was befieged not long after by Sir Thomas Fairfax, who came before it on the twenty fourth of August, and had it surrendred

of KING CHARLES. 125

to him without any memorable resistance, together with the old Castle and the Royall Fort, on the thirteenth of

September.

The quick furrendry of which place; being so well fortified and furnisht with victuall, Arms and Ammunition, and the weak defences which were made to preserve the same, created some suspicion of disloyalty in Prince Rupert towards the King his Uncle. There had before passed some Letters betwixt the King and him, touching the Kings coming to a speedy agreement with his Houses of Parliament, in which the King was prest so far, that he seemed to be displeased at it. And now this news coming on the neck of those Letters, startled him into such a distrust of his Nephews Loyalty, that he dispatche a messenger with all speed to the Lords at Oxford, to displace Collonell William Legg (one of the Confidents of Prince Rupers) who had succeeded Sir Henry Gage in the Government of. that City, and to put into his place: Sim

Sir Thomas Glenham, a Gentleman of known extraction, and more known fi-

delity.

Nor were the Lords of the Council lesse amazed at the news then his Majesty was, who thereupon, when Prince Rupert and his Brother Maurice returned to Oxford, commanded them to be disarmed, and would not suffer them to walk the streets with their Swords by their sides, as they had done formerly; though afterwards by the Kings great goodnesse, they were restored to all apparences of savour, though not to any speciall places of Command or Trust.

Hereford followes the same fortune, which having in vain been besieged by the Scots, from the 13. of July to the first of September, was suddenly surprized by Collonel Birch and Collonel Morgan (this last then Governour of Glocester) on the eighteenth of December.

Exceter holds out longest, and was last attempted, such blocks as lay in the way between Fairfax his Army and that

City

City being first in the course of war to be removed. Which took up so much time that it was the twenty fish day of January before Fairefax could come neer enough to give it a Summons, and being summon'd it held out till the thirteenth of April, and then was yielded upon as honourable Conditions as any other whatsoever; all other Garrisons in the West being first surrendred, the Princes forces worfted at Torrington, not long after disbanded upon Composition, and he himself retired into France for his personall safety.

All these mischances thus happing on the neck of one another, all the Kings hopes and expectation rested upon the coming of Sir Jacob Astley, created Lord Astley of Reading two years since; Who having kept together some Remainders of the Kings Forces since the Fight neer chester, and increasing them with the Accession of some fresh supplies, marched towards the King, and was to have been met upon the way by Sir John

Gramps-

campsfield with the Oxford Horse. But either through the want of intelligence, or the necessity of fate, or some occasionall delayes, it was so long before Campsfield was upon his march, that the news came of the Lord Asleys being vanquish'd at a place called Donnington neer Stow on the Wold, on the 21 of March. In which fight himself was taken prisoner, and with him all the Kings hopes lost of preserving oxford, till he could better his condition.

1646

In this extremity he left the City in disguise on the 27 day of April, Anne 1646. and on the fourth of May put himself into the hands of Scots, then lying at the siege of Newark. After the taking of which Town, they carried him to Newcastle, and there kept him under a Restraint.

The news hereof being brought to. Oxford, and seconded by the coming.

of the whole Army of Sir Thomas Fairfax, who laid fiege unto it, disposed the Lords of the Council, and such of the principall Gentry who had the conduct of the Affair, to come to a speedy Composition. According whereunto, that City was surrendred on Midsomer day: James Duke of York the Kings second Son, together with the Great Seal, Privy Seal, and Signet, were delivered up into the hands of the enemy : by whom the young Duke was fent to Westminster, and kept in the House of S. James under a Guard with his Brother and Sisters; the Seals being carried into the House of Peers, and there broke in pieces.

But long these young Princes were not kept together under that restraint, the Princess Henrietta being in a short time after conveyed into France by the Lady Dalkieth; and the Duke of York, attired in the habit of a young Lady transported into Holland by one Captain

Bamfield.

The Scots in the meane time being desirous

defirous to make even with their Mafters, to receive the wages of their iniquity, and to get home in fafety, with that spoil and plunder which they had gotten in their marching and remarching betwixt Tweed and Hereford, had not the patience to attend the leifure of any more voluntary furrendries, therefore pressed the King to give order to the Marquesse of Ormand in Ireland, and to all the Governours of his Garrisons in England, to give up all the Towns and Castles which remained untaken, to fuch as should be appointed to receive them for the Houses of Parliament, affuring him that otherwife they neither could nor durft continue him in their protection.

To this necessity he submitted, but found not such a generall obedience to his commands as the Scots expected. For not the marquesse of ormand onely, but many of the Governours of Towns and Castles in England considered him as being under a constraint, and speaking rather the sense of others then

of KING CAARLES. 131

his own; upon which grounds they continued still upon their guard, in hope of better times or of better conditions.

But nothing was more hotly preffed by the Scots, then that the Marquelle of Montroffe thould lay down his Commission, who with small strength in the beginning, and inconfiderable forces when they were at the best, bad acted things in Scotland even unto admiration. For besides many victories of lesse consequence, he had twice beaten the Marquesse of Argile out of the field, followed him home, and wasted his Countrey with Fire and Sword, He vanquisht Baily, one of the best Souldiers of the Faction, commanding over a well-formed Army in a fet battel fought between them; followed his blow, and made himself Master of the City and Gastle of Edenburgh, releafing divers of his Friends who had been feized and imprisoned there when he first took arms. Had the Lord Digby's Horse come to him, he had not onely

perfected, but affured the conquest of that Kingdome. But instead of those aids which he expected, he was unexpectedly fet upon, and his whole Army broken by David Lesley, sent from the Scots army in England with fix thousand Horse to oppose the progresse of his fortune; whose coming being known to the Earl of Roxberow and Traquair, (in whom the King continued still his wonted confidence) was purposely concealed from him; to the end that he being once suppressed, and in him the Kings power destroyed in Scotland, they might be fure from being called to an account of their former Treasons: however he began to make head again, and was in a way of well-doing, when he received the Kings command to disband his Forces; to which he readily conformed, took ship, and put himself into a voluntary exile.

These Obstacles removed, his Majefly conceived some thoughts of finding Sanctuary in Scotland, the Scots having

of KING CHARLES. 133

having first assured him, (as he signistical by Letter to the Marquesse of Ormond) before he put himself into their hands, that they would not onely take his person, but so many of his party also as repaired unto him, into their protection, and stand to him with their lives and fortune. According to which hopes on his part, and those assurances on theirs, he had a great mind to return to his Native Countrey, his Ancient and Native Kingdome, as he used to call it, there to expect the bettering of his condition in the changes of time.

But the Scots hearing of his purpose, and having long ago cast off the yoke of Subjection, voted against his coming to them in a full Assembly; so that we may affirm of him as the Scripture doth of Christ our Saviour, viz. He came anto his own, and his own received him not. The like resolution also was entertained by the Commissionners of that Nation, and the chiefe Leaders of their Army, who had contracted

and for the summe of two hundred thousand pounds in ready money, sold and betrayed him into the hands of his Enemies, as certainly they would have done with the Lord Christ himself for halfe the money, if he had bowed the Heavens and came down to visit them.

By the Commissioners sent from the Houses to receive him, he was conducted to Holdenby a fair house of his own, and one of the goodliest Piles in England, scituate not far from Naseby, (to the intent that he might be continually grieved with the sight of the fatall place of his overthrow) but kept so close that none of his Domestick servants, no, not so much as any of his own Chaplains were suffered to have Accesse unto him.

In the mean time a breach began betwikt the *Presbyterian* Party in both Houses and some chief Officers of the Army, which growing every day wider and wider, one Gornet Joice,

with

of KING CHARLES. 135

with a considerable party of Horse, was sent to seize on his Majesties Person, and bring him safe to their head Quarters. There at the first he was received with all possible demonstrations of Love and Duty, some of his Chaplains licensed to repair unto him, and read the Book of Common-Prayer as in former times, and the way open to all those of his party who desired to see him.

This made the Animosities between those of the two Houses and the Army to be far greater then before, the City closing with that party of the Houses which desired the Kings coming to the Parliament, and going down in a tumultuous manner required the present voting of a Personal Treaty. This made the Speaker and such of both Houses, as either held for the Army or had no mind to see the Kings Return to London, to quit the Parliament, and to betake themselves to their Protection; incouraged wherewith they resolved upon their march towards London,

to restore those members to their Houses, and those Houses to the Power and Freedom of Parliaments. Upon the noise of whose Approch, the Citizens who before spake big, and had begun to raise an Army, under the Command of the Lord willowby of Parham, sent their Petitions for a peace, and gladly opened all their works between Hide-Park Corner and the Thames, to make an entrance for the Army; who having placed their Speakers in their feverall Chaires, and supprest those of the opposite party, made a triumphant passage through the chief Streets of the City, with Trumpets founding, Drums beating, and Colours flying.

The King removed from one place to another, was brought in the course of those Removes to Casam Lodge, an House of the Lord Cravens not far from Reading, where he obtained the favour of giving a meeting to his Children at Maydenbith, and there they dined together; the Generall willingly contentConsenting, and the Houses then not da-

ring to make any denyall.

From thence he was at last brought to his own Palace of Hampton Court, where being terrified with the Apprehension of some Dangers, which were given out to be designed against his person by the Adjutators, who for a time much governed the lower part of the Army, he lest that place, accompanied onely with two or three of his servants, and put himself unfortunately into the power of Collonel Hammond in the Isle of wight, where no relief could come unto him.

Being secured in Carisbrook Castle, Propositions are sent to him from the Houses of Parliament, as had been done before at Newcastle, and Holden-by-House: to which he returned the same Answer now as he did before, their Demands being nothing bettered, and his condition nothing worse then before it was. Provoked wherewith, the Houses past their Votes of Non-Adresses to his Majesty,

and take the Government upon themfelves, as in the times of Vacancy and Inter-regnum in the State of Rome; wherein they were confirmed by a Declaration from the Army, binding themselves to stand to them in defence of those Votes.

During the time of these restraints, he betook himself to meditation, and then composed that most excellent Book entituled Einar Baoilinh, or the Pourtraiture of his sacred Majesty in his Solitudes and Sufferings. The Honour of this work some mercenary Sticklers for the two Houses of Parliament have laboured to deprive him of, and to transfer it to some other, though they know not whom. But it is well known to all that knew him, that his Majesty had alwayes a fine stroke with his pen, which he practifed at all times of leasure and recesse from businesse, from before his coming to the Crown, to these last extremities. By which means he became Master of a pure and elegant Stile, as both his intercepted Let-

139

Letters, and those to Mr. Henderson at New-Castle in the point of Episcopacy where he could have no other helps but (what he found in himself) do most clearly evidence.

1648.

And now the Subjects of both Kingdoms, which before had joyned in Arms against him, began to look upon his Estate with Commiseration; and feeing they could obtain no favour, or freedom for him in the way of Petition, they resolved to try their for-

tunes in the way of Force,

And first a very considerable part of the Royall Navy, encouraged by Captain Batten, formerly Vice Admirall to the Earl of Warmick, was put into the power of the Prince of Wales to be made use of for his Majesties service in that fad condition; and next the Kentish, who twice or thrice before had showed their readinesse to appear in Arms on his behalf, put themselves into

into a posture of War under the conduct of one Master Hales (an Heir of great hope and expectation) and after under the command of George Lord Goring Earl of Norwich. The Farl of Holland, whom he had cherifft in his Bosome, and who unworthily deserted him in the first beginning of histroubles, repenting when it was too late, of his great difloyalties, began to raise fome small Forces in the County of Surrey; Langbern, Poyer, and Powel, who before had ferved under the pay of the Houses, seized on some strong Towns and Castles in South-VVales, and declared against them; the Castle of Pomfret was surprized by Stratagem, and kept by them who had furprized it, for his Majesties service. And finally the Marquesse of Hamilton (not long before created Duke Hamilton of Arran) having raised a strong Army of Scots, confederated himself with Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and Sir Thomas Glenham and others of the Kings party in the North, and having Garrisoned the

the Towns of Berwick and Carlifle, past into England with his Forces under colour of restoring the King to his Crown and Liberty.

But these eruptions in both Kingdoms, though they might give hi Majesty some hopes of a better condition, yet did they not take him off from looking seriously into himself, and taking into Consideration those things which had formerly passed him, and which might seem most to have provoked Gods displeasure against him.

And what they were which most particularly grated on his Conscience appeareth by the Prayer and Confession which he made for the times of his Affliction; and is this that followeth, viz. "Almighty and most mercifull Father, as it is only thy goodnesse that admits of our imperfect Prayers, and the knowledge that thy mercies are insimite, which can give us any hope of thy accepting or granting them; so it

r

es

y d

e

it is our bounden and necessary Duty ce to confesse our Sins freely unto thee: " and of all men living, I have most "need, most reason so to do, no man "having been so much obliged by thee, no man more grievoully offen-"ding thee: that Degree of know-"iedge which thou hast given me, "adding likewise to the guilt of my "Transgressions. For was it through "ignorance that I suffered innocent " blood to be shed by a false pretended "Justice? Or that I permitted a comrong way of thy worship to be set up, " in Scotland, and injured the Bishops in " England? O no; but with shame " and grief I confesse, that I therein "followed the perswasions of worldly " wisdome, forsaking the Dicates of " a right-informed Conscience. Where-" fore O Lord, I have no excuse to " make, no hope left but the multitude ec of thy mercies; for I know my reee pentance weak, and my Prayers faulty. Grant therefore, mercifull Father, to to strengthen my repentance, and

"and amend my Prayers, that thou "maist clear the way for Thine own "mercies; to which O let thy Justice "at last give place, putting a speedy end to my deserved Afflictions. In the mean time, give me Patience to endure, Constancy against temptations, and a Discerning Spirit to chuse what is best for thy Church and Peo"ple which thou hast committed to my charge. Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy Son Jesus Christs fake, our onely Saviour, Amen.

Now as the King thus armed himself against all suture events, in the middle of these hopes and expectations; so the Houses of Parliament were not wanting to themselves in their care and diligence to destroy those hopes, and make those expectations fruitlesse and of no effect. For the Storm thus breaking out on all sides, Lieutenant Generall Crommel with some part of the Army is ordered to march into Wales; where he reduced such Towns and Castless

y E

6-

O

de

6-

ul-

12-

ce,

bne

stles under his command as had before been manned against them, the three chief Captains above named yielding themselves upon the hopes of that mercy which they never tasted. This done he hasteneth towards the Scots, whom he found in Lancashire, discomsits them, takes all their Foot, with their Canon, Arms, and Ammunition. The Duke or Marquesse, with his Horse, which had escaped out of the fight, were so closely sollowed by the diligence of the pursuers, that most of his Horse being slain or taken, himself was sent Prisoner unto London,

Following his blow, Cromwel befrowes a visit on Scotland, suppresses all
those in that Kingdome, who stood in
any sort suspected of the crime of Loyalty, the Towns of Berwick and Cartisse being delivered into his hands without blowes or Blood-shed. An expedition which he made good use of in his
following Counsels, discovering by this
means the weaknesse and condition of

ons and part-takings amongst the great ones of that Realm, on whose divided wills and pleasures all the rest depended; and on what side they lay most open and assaultable, when any further occasion should be taken (as there aster was) to attempt upon them.

In the mean time some Troops of the other part of the Army scatter the weak forces of the Earl of Holland, who flying towards the North, is taken at Saint Neots in the County of Huntingdon, and fent Prisoner unto London also. The Kentish being either scattered, or forced over the Thames, put themselves into the Town of Colchester, and are there belieged by Sir Thomas Fairfax himself with his part of the Army. The iffue of which Siege was this, that after some extremities endured by the belieged, the place was yielded upon composition, the Townsmen to be fafe from plunder, the Souldiers and their Commanders to yield themselves Prisoners

Prisoners absolutely without any Conditions. The Principal of these were the Lord Capel, Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisse, all of them of approved valour and sidelity: of which the two last were shot to death upon the place, the first reserved for the Scassoli; on which he lookt death in the face with as much magnanimity, as Hamilton and Holland (who suffered at the same time with him) entertained it with a poorness and Dejection of Spirit.

And which was worst (because it lost some Reputation to the Prince in his first Attempt) the Marriners growing discontented that Prince Rupert was appointed to be their Admirall, instead of the Lord Villoughby of Parham, by whom they desired to be commanded, fell off with many of their Ships, and returned again to their old Admirall the Earl of Viarwick. By the withdrawing of which Ships he was rendred the lesse able to do any thing considerable on the Sea, and landing with some Forces

Forces neer Deal-Castle in Kent, sped not so fortunately as both his Friends hoped and himself expected.

But notwithstanding these Successes, the Houses seeing how desirous the whole Nation was of a Personall Treaty, recalled their Votes of No-Address, and ordered that a Personall Treaty should be held with his Majesty at Newport in the Isle of Wight, to begin on the eighteenth day of September next following. But the Commissioners which were fent to mannage this Treaty, spent so much time upon each Nicety and Punctillio of the Propositions, before they drew towards a Conclusion, that they gave the Officers of the Army too much opportunity to frame and publish a Remonstrance, bearing date at S. Albans on the fixteenth of Novem-In which it was declared that the King was the fole cause of all that blood-shed which had been made in the Kingdome, that he was incapable of any further trust in the publick go-G 4 verns

vernment, and that nothing could be more expedient to the safety of the Common-wealth, then to bring him to the Bar of Justice. Nor staid they there, but in pursuit of this Design, some of the Officers were appointed to go into the Isle of wight, and having seized upon his Person to bring him over to Hurst Castle in Hampshire, from whence they brought him by degrees to VVindfor, and at last to VVestminster. And on the other side the Independent Party in the House of Commons (holding intelligence with the Army) voted his Majesties Concessions to be so unsatisfactory, that no well-grounded Peace could be built upon them.

In the next place, a care was taken by the Army to purge the House of all those members to whom his Majesties condescensions had given satisfaction. Which done, a New Court, called the High Court of Justice, is to be set up, a President of the same appointed, certain Commissioners nominated to

Act as Judges, and a set time designed to call his Majesty to a Tryall, in an unprecedented way, before his Sub-

jects.

It is reported that at his going from the Bar, one of the Souldiers most barbarously spit in his face, and used very reproachfull words against him. Which though his Majesty suffered with his wonted patience, yet the Divine vengeance would not suffer it to go unrevenged; that wretch being not long after condemned in a Court of War, for some endeavours to make a Mutiny in the Army, and openly shot to death in S. Pauls Church-yard.

And now Saturday the 20 of January, the day of his appearing being come, his majesty was brought from the Palace of Saint James unto Westminster Hall, to appear before the new Judges, and answer unto all particulars which are thought sit to be objected.

His appearance could not be avoided, incregard he was under a constraint;

5

but

but no constraint could force his will to make him acknowledge their Authority, or submit himself unto their judgement. He would not so betray the Liberty of the English Subject (as he plainly told them) to any arbitrary and lawlesse Power, as he must needs do by submitting unto their proceedings; and therefore fince the Laws and Liberties of the Land were now in question, he stood resolved to dy a Martyr for them both. For which contempt (having stood resolutely on the same term, as oft as he was brought before them) he was fentenced on Saturday the twenty feventh of the same moneth to lose his life, by the dividing of his head from his body.

That fatall morning being come, the Bishop of London, who attended on him in that sad exigent, read the morning Prayers, and for the first Lesson thereof, the 27 Chapter of S. Matthews Gospel, relating the History of our Saviours Sufferings under Pontius Bi-

late,

late, by the practife of the chief Priests, the Scribes and Pharisees, and others of the Great Council of the Jewish Nation. At first his Majesty conceived that the Bishop had made choice of that Chapter, as being very agreeable to his present condition; But when he understood that it was the Chapter which the Church had appointed for that day in her publick Kalendar, he seemed to apprehend it with some signes.

of rejoycing.

No sooner had he done his Devotions, but he is hurried to VVhite-Hall, out of the Banqueting-house, whereof a way was forced to a Scaffold on which he was to act the last part of his Tragedy in the sight of the people. Having declared that he died a Martyr for the Lawes of this Kingdome, and the Liberties of the Subjects, he made a Confession of his Faith, insinuating that he died a true Son of the Church of England, he betook himself to his private Devotions, and patiently submitted that Royal Head to an Executioner, which

had before been crowned with so much outward Pomp and Splendour.

The Members of both Houses had often promised him in their Petitions, Messages and Declarations, that they would make him a great and glorious King, and now they were as good as their words, changing his fading but painfull Crown of Thorns, which they first platted for him, to an immarcessible Crown of Glory.

At his first coming to the Crown, one of his Chaplains in Ordinary, and now a Bishop in this Ghurch, taking good heed unto the close contrivances of some, and the seditious actings of others in his two first Parliaments, thought sit to give him and his Council such an item of it, as might awaken them to prevent those mischiefs which otherwise might ensue upon it. And thereupon he preached before them on these words of S. Matthews Gospel, wiz, But when the busbandmen saw the San,

Son, they said among themselves, This is the heir, come let us kill him, and let us feize on his inheritance, Mat. 21. 38. In the diffecting of which Text, he made fuch an Anatomy of the Husbandmen, whom he had in hand (with reference to some Plots and Practifes which were then on foot) and his whole discourse upon the same, that he gave the King and those about him such Remembrances, as might make them have an eye unto themselves and the publick safety. But then withall (though he carried on the matter with great care and prudence) he drew fo much danger on himself from some leading Members in the second Parliament, who thought themselves as much concerned in the Sermon as the chief Priest and Pharisees did in the Parable, that he was upon the point of leaving the Kingdome, when he had news that his Majesty had dissolved the second Parliament in no small displeasure.

What he then preached concerning the

the said Husbandmen, was after practifed, and that he then fore-signified was accomplished now. Which shewes him to have been both a Priest and a Prophet, if at the least the name of a Prophet may be given unto any man who foretelleth not of things to come by Divine Revelation, but out of a deep insight into businesse.

But we return unto the King, whom if we looke on in his Children (the most lively Images and Representations of deceased Parents) we shall find him to have been the Father of four Sons

and five Daughters.

Greenwich on Wednesday the 13.0f May, 1629. but died almost as soon as born, having been first christened by Dr. Web, one of the Chaplains in Attendance, and afterwards a Bishop in Ireland.

2. CHARLES Duke of Cornwall by Birth, Prince of Wales in Designation,

tion, and Knight of the Garter, born at his Majesties house of Saint James neer VVestminster , May 29. 1630. folemnly crowned King of the Scots at Edenburgh on the first day of January, Anno 1650. But being invaded by an Army from England, under the command of Generall Cromwell, he was forced to quit that Kingdome and try his fortunes in the other; so closely followed by the Army, which compelled him to that Expedition, he was fought with neer VVorcester on the third of September 1651, before the Earl of Darby and some others of his party here could come to aid him with their Forces. In which Battel, though he acted beyond the expectation of his Friends, and to the great applause of his very Enemies; yet it so pleased the Divine Providence that he loft the day, and being miraculoufly preferved (notwithstanding the diligent search which was made after him) he passed safely over into France to the Queen his Mother. Finding that Court unsafe for him,

him, he passed into Flanders, accompanied with his Brother the Duke of Tork, Anno 1654. where they have continued ever since.

3. JAMES born in the same place on the 13. day of October Anno 1623. entituled Duke of York by his Majesties command at the time of his birth; created fo by Letters Patents, bearing date at Oxford, January 27. Anno 1643. and not long after made Knight of the Garter. Taken prisoner at the surrendry of Oxford, June 24. 1646. he was carried to his Majesties house of Saint James, and there kept under a Guard with his Brother and Sifter; but being attired in the habit of a young Lady, he was conveyed thence about two years after by one Gollonel Bamfield, who brought him fafely into Holland, and prefented him a most welcome guest to the Princesse of Orange, from whence he past afterwards into France to his Mother and Brother.

4. HENRY

4 HENRY born on the eighth of July, designed to the Dukedome of Glocester, and so commanded to be cal-Left by his Majesty at the House of Saint James (the place of his birth) at fuch time as he withdrew towards the North, Anno 1642, he remained there till the Death of his Father, and some years after, and then upon the promise of an Annual pension, was permitted to go into France to his Mother and the rest of the Kings Children. But in the year 1654. almost as soon as his two elder Brethren had removed themselves into Flanders, he found a strong practife in some of the Queens Court to seduce him to the Church of Rome, whose Temptations he resisted beyond his years, and thereupon was fent for by them into Flanders.

5. MARY born on the fourth of November, 1631. and married to Gount VVilliam of Nassau Eldest Son to HEN-RY Prince of Orange, on Sunday the second of May, Anno 1641. conveyed

by the Queen her Mother into Holland in February following, where she stil remains. Her Husband having succeeded his Father in all his Titles and Estates, died young, and left her the hopefull Mother of a Son, now Prince of Orange.

- 6. ELIZABETH born the twenty eighth of January 1635, survived her Father, but died with hearts grief not long after.
- 7. ANNE born the seventeenth of March 1637. died before her Father.
- 8. KATHARINE, who died almost as soon as born.
- 9. HENRIETTA born at Exceter June the fixteenth 1644. conveyed not long after into France by the Lady Dalkeith to the Queen her Mother, where she still remains.

It is observed of the VVolf, that as foon

foon as he is once full he begins to howl, and such a howling fit fell at this time on the Presbyterians. They had carried on this Tragedy to the very last Act from the first bringing in of the Scots to the beginning of the war, and from the beginning of the war till they had brought him prisoner into Holmby-House, and then quarrelled with the Independents for taking the work out of their hands, and robbing them of the longexpected fruits of their Plots and Practifes. They cried out against them in their Pulpits, and clamoured against them in their Pamphlets for this most execrable fact, of which themselves were parcel-guilty at the least, Et finon re, at voto pariter Regicida, O.c.

On the other side, the Independents, who had washt their hands in the blood of the King, seemed as desirous as the Presbyterians to mash their hands of it. By them it was alledged more calmly, that they had put Charles Stuart to death, against whom they had proceeded as the sole

fole cause of so much bloodshed; but that the King had been murthered a long time before by the Presbyterians, when they deprived him of his Crown, his Sword and his Scepter; of his Crown, by forcing from him those Prerogatives which placed him in a Throne of Eminence above his People; of his Sword, by wresting the Militia out of his hands, by which he was made unable to protect them; and finally, of his Scepter, in divesting him of the power of calling Parliaments, and of his Negative voice in making those Laws by which he was to govern all estates of men under his Dominion. And more then fo, that they had deprived him of his naturall Liberty, as he was a Man, of the fociety of his Wife, as he was a Husband, of conversation with his Children, as he was a Father, of the attendance of his Servants, as he was a Master, and in a word, of all those comforts which might make life valued for a Bleffing So that there was nothing left for the Independents to do, but to put an end to those Cala-

Calamities, into which this miserable man, this vir dolorum (as he might very well be called) had been so accursedly plunged by the Presbyterians.

Thus did each party seek to shift the guilt of this most execrable Act upon one another, and thus fell CHARLES the meekest of Men and the best of Princes, leaving behind him an example of Christian fortitude, in suffering patiently that blow, which neither the Law of God or man, nor any deservings of his own could inflict upon him.

His body being removed to Windsor was there interred in the same Vault with K, Henry the 8. but not interred with that solemnity nor in that publick form and manner which is appointed in the Liturgy of the Church of England, of which he had been alwayes a devout Observer, and to the last a resolute Patron and Defender, His Funerall solemnized and his Death lamented with sewer tears than can be easily imagined;

men bleeding inwardly from their hearts, when their eyes durst not expresse outwardly what grief they felt. So dangerous were the times, Ut suspiria etiam subscriberentur (as Tacitus affirmeth of the times of Domitian a most cruell Tyrant) that mens very sighs were registred and kept upon account toward the undoing of many in the time to come.

But though he died thus in the strength of his years, he still lives in the memories of all good men, and by that most excellent Portraiture which he hath made of himself, will be preserved alive amongst all Nations, and unto all succeeding Ages. The Pourtraiture of King Charles in his Solitudes and Sufferings, will be a Character of his Paris and Piety beyond all expressions but his own; a Monument of richer metall than all the Tombs of Brasse or Marble erected to the honour of his Predeceffors; which no Inscription whatfoever, though in Letters of Gold, and engraven with a pen of Diamonds.

amonds, can be able to parallel.

And so I shut up this short View of the Life and Reign of this glorious King, as Tacitus doth the Life of Julius Agricola, a right noble Roman (the names of the persons onely changed) viz. Quiquid ex Carolo amavimus, quicquid mirati sumus, manet mansurumque est in animis hominum, in aternitate temporum, sama rerum.

Horat. Garm. lib. 1. Ode 24. Multis ille bonis flebilis occidit, Nulli flebilior quammihi

THE END.